

FEBRUARY 5-11, 2020 | CITYPAGES.COM | FREE

CITY PAGES

STRAW WARS

The shadowy league
of vigilantes trying
to choke access to
Minnesota's polls





THIS IS

MONSTER JAM

Monster Jam® Returns!

U.S. BANK STADIUM | FEB 15

BKT **Great Clips** **SUPER GLUE** **MONSTER**

MonsterJam.com
Competitors shown are subject to change. © 2019 Feld Motor Sports, Inc.



Know a boy who loves to sing?

Send him to Boychoir Bootcamp!
 Create music, make friends & have FUN!
 Boys entering 1st - 5th grade
 August 3 - 7, 2020
 \$100
 Hosted by the Minnesota Boychoir
 at Concordia University, St. Paul
www.boychoir.org

BOYCHOIR BOOTCAMP



Are you in an inappropriate relationship with your doctor, therapist, coach or boss?

Has your healthcare provider or employer disclosed legally protected health care information about you to others?

Stop being taken advantage of today. Take action. Call today for a free & confidential consultation with a lawyer.

Great Plains Injury Law
www.greatplainsinjurylaw.com
 612.877.6400



6 FEATURE
STRAW WARS

The shadowy league of vigilantes trying to choke access to Minnesota’s polls
By Susan Du

4 NEWS
THE SHORTLIST
Legal weed in Minnesota soon?
BLOTTER
Hair discrimination

15 DRINK
METEOR BAR AND BAR BRAVA
Two great new spots on the North Side

17 A-LIST
GALENTINE’S DAY
Celebrate friendship love with beer, booze, and sweets

22 FILM
OSCAR-NOMINATED SHORTS
A good but dark crop this year

23 THEATER
INTIMACY
CONSULTANTS
Making a safe space for actors

25 MUSIC
HMONGLISH
Local musicians create a new hybrid language

27 FREE WILL
ASTROLOGY
CROSSWORD

29 CLASSIFIEDS
SAVAGE LOVE

cover credit
Illustration by
Sébastien Thibault

Editorial
EDITOR Emily Cassel
WEB EDITOR Jay Boller
NEWS EDITOR Mike Mullen
MUSIC EDITOR Keith Harris
FOOD EDITOR Sarah Brumble
ARTS EDITOR Jessica Armbruster
STAFF WRITERS Susan Du, Hannah Jones
COPY CHIEF Bridgette Reinsmoen
PROOFREADER Bryan Miller
CLUBS EDITOR Erik Thompson

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Jerard Fagerberg, Jay Gabler,
Tony Libera, Michael Madden,
Erica Rivera, Sheila Regan

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
Amy Gee, Alma Guzman,
Lucy Hawthorne,
Samson Melkamu, Shelly Mosman,
Bobby Rogers, Tony Nelson,
Colin Michael Simmons

Art
ART DIRECTOR Emily Utne
LAYOUT EDITOR Shelby Lano

Production
DESIGN MANAGER Maria Grzywa

Publisher
Mary Erickson

Advertising
SALES DIRECTOR Leah Parkinson
SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Leah Carson, Kevin Lenhart,
Brian Thunberg
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Frankie Ellingson, Ashley Farlow,
Luke Gildemeister, Marie Iannazzo,
Jacob Johnston
SENIOR MULTIMEDIA ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Mike Yanke
DIGITAL PRODUCT MANAGER Kibra Paulos
ACCOUNT MANAGERS
Carly Dabroski, Danielle Smith

CP Digital
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER Kelly Java

Marketing and Promotions
MARKETING DIRECTOR Holly Hunt
MARKETING COORDINATOR
Emma Engeldinger

Business and Administration
FINANCE MANAGER Bernadette Botoshe
STAFF ACCOUNTANT Du Nguyen Ho

City Pages
650 3rd Avenue South, Suite 1300,
Minneapolis, MN 55488
PHONE 612.375.1015 **FAX** 612.372.3737
E-MAIL adinfo@citypages.com
CITY PAGES ONLINE www.citypages.com
OFFICE HOURS Monday-Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ISSN 0744-0456. City Pages is published weekly by Star Tribune Media Company, LLC. City Pages is located at 650 3rd Ave. S., Ste. 1300, Minneapolis, MN 55488. City Pages is available free of charge, limited to one copy per reader. Additional copies of the current issue may be purchased at the City Pages office for \$1, payable in advance. No person may, without prior written permission of City Pages, take more than one copy of each City Pages weekly issue. Subscriptions are available for \$100 per year. Subscription orders must include check or money order payable to City Pages, and should be mailed to City Pages Subscriptions, 650 3rd Ave. S., Ste. 1300, Minneapolis, MN 55488. Periodicals postage paid at Minneapolis, Minnesota. Postmaster: Send address changes to City Pages, 650 3rd Ave. S., Ste. 1300, Minneapolis, MN 55488.

No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission. Copyright 2019 City Pages. City Pages is a registered trademark of Star Tribune Media Company, LLC.



A large poster for the Jurassic World Live Tour. At the top is a detailed illustration of a T-Rex's head and upper body, looking towards the right. Below the T-Rex is the Jurassic World logo, which features a silhouette of a T-Rex inside a circular frame. Below the logo, the words 'JURASSIC WORLD' are written in a large, bold, serif font. At the bottom, the words 'LIVE TOUR' are written in a very large, bold, sans-serif font. Below 'LIVE TOUR' is the text 'Produced by Feld Entertainment'. At the bottom of the poster is the Xcel Energy Center logo, which features a stylized 'X' and the text 'Xcel Energy Center'. Below the logo, the dates 'OCTOBER 9-11' are written in a large, bold, sans-serif font. At the very bottom, the text 'TICKETS AVAILABLE AT XCEL ENERGY CENTER BOX OFFICE & TICKETMASTER.COM | GROUPS 651.312.3486' is written in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font.

CITY PAGES BEST *of the* TWIN CITIES

VOTE

readers' choice poll

PHASE 1

FEBRUARY 5-26

Type in your nominee for each category

PHASE 2

MARCH 4-25

Select from the top five nominees of each category

Each year, our annual Best of the Twin Cities issue celebrates all the things we love most about our metropolis, from the finest bars and restaurants, to the coolest people, parks, museums, and music.

Be sure to help us celebrate the winners at City Pages Best of the Twin Cities Party, April 30, 2020 at Orchestra Hall!

CITYPAGES.COM/VOTE

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED ON
APRIL 22, 2020**

THE SHORTLIST



Look at these
skijoring doggos go!
citypages.com

LESLIE PLESSER

THE STAT SHEET

\$384,900

Listed price for St. Paul's iconic Dari-ette Drive-in, which just hit the market

12 a.m.

Closing time at 11 Twin Cities Hy-Vees—they're no longer open 24 hours starting next week

12

Straight losses for the Timberwolves after falling to the Kings Monday night

15%

Increase in Minnesota farm bankruptcies last year

"Steyer can have the guillotine last."

Reader Matthew Janda responds to "Billionaire Tom Steyer: I'm not rich, my mom is from Minneapolis!" at citypages.com

LEGALIZATION LEGISLATION

ON TUESDAY, Minnesota's Democratic lawmakers announced plans to push for legalized recreational marijuana in 2020. Which sounds well and good, until you realize the GOP-controlled Senate would almost assuredly not enact such a bill this session—something Dem leaders acknowledged at a Tuesday morning press conference. That puts us... well, pretty much where we were at this time last year. But House Majority Leader Ryan Winkler says you can expect legalization eventually, and they're going to introduce their plan pretty early in the session. Ever notice how time can move reeeeeally slowly when you're stoned?

POPULAR STORIES AT CITYPAGES.COM

DRAG TARGET'S ASS,
Minnesota Boomer queen!

Minnesota **HATES WISCONSIN**,
LOVES CANADA, and can't
follow instructions

WANNA BUY THIS former
Room & Board exec's \$2.9M
Minneapolis condo?

CATHOLIC PRIEST: Don't let 'large
numbers of Muslims' into America

Minnesota's **RICHEST CEOS**
make way more than their
workers (and you)

FREEDOM OF THE TRESS

Minnesota legislators want to outlaw discrimination based on hair

Last month, DeAndre Arnold, a high school senior living in Texas, was told he couldn't walk at his graduation ceremony unless he got rid of his long dreadlocks.

The look supposedly violated the Barbers Hill Independent School District dress code.

Last year, in New Jersey, high school wrestler Andrew Johnson was forced to either cut his dreadlocks or forfeit a match. He chose to compete. Video of the wrestler standing still while someone took a pair of scissors to his hair went viral and sparked a civil rights investigation.

These are examples Rep. Rena Moran (DFL-St. Paul) cites when she talks about why she and colleagues are introducing the CROWN Act at this coming legislative session. CROWN stands for "Create

a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair." The prospective law would prohibit discriminating against someone based on the way their hair looks or feels.

The CROWN Act already has traction nationwide, passing in California, New York, and New Jersey, the state where Johnson's locs were shorn. It's also been passed in a number of cities, as well as introduced in 20 or so other states, and in Congress. It's about time, Moran says, we got on it in Minnesota.

Not every instance of hair policing ends in a viral video. Women of color—particularly black women—face this all the time, Moran says. Research by Dove, which co-founded the Crown Coalition to push for this kind of legislation, found that black women are 30 percent more likely to be informed of a "formal grooming policy" in the workplace. They were also one and a half times more likely to

be sent home or know someone who had been sent home because of her hairstyle.

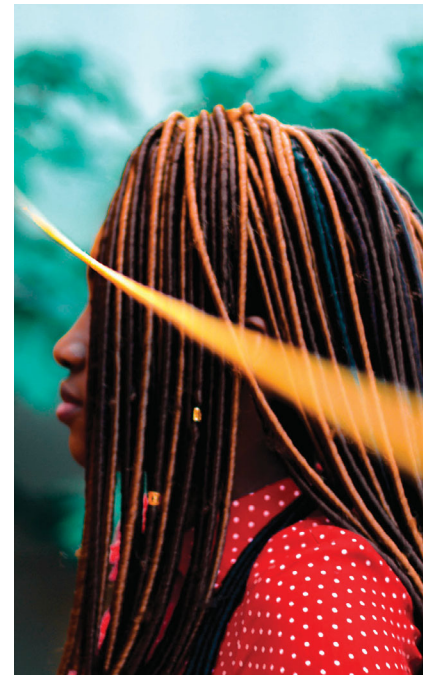
Women of color were also 80 percent more likely to change their natural hair to meet societal, Euro-centric norms, or workplace expectations.

"As an African American person myself, I know and my children know that the texture of our hair makes people uncomfortable," Moran says. She keeps her own hair pressed for exactly that reason.

Each state has taken a slightly different approach. In Minnesota, Moran and her colleagues want to tack the CROWN Act onto our existing Human Rights Act—expanding the definition of "race" to include "traits historically associated with race, including but not limited to hair texture and hair styles such as braids, locks, and twists."

Moran's bill attracted a number of co-authors, including Ruth Richardson (DFL-Mendota Heights) and Hodan Hassan (DFL-Minneapolis), who join Moran as the only other black women in the 134-member House.

It'll be a few weeks before Moran's bill gets a first committee hearing. (The 2020 session convenes February 11.) She's hopeful colleagues in the Legislature will be receptive, but in her time at the Capitol



OSCAR OBIANS, UNSPLASH.COM

she's learned that things are "never" that easy or simple.

"Unfortunately, we have not reached that type of inclusiveness altogether," she says. —HANNAH JONES



WHERE THE FUN BEGINS!

20% OFF

Couples Toys & Lingerie

Offers only valid Feb. 4- 14th, 2020



1607 University Ave W. St Paul, MN 55104



STRAW WARS

THE SHADOWY LEAGUE OF VIGILANTES
TRYING TO CHOKE ACCESS
TO MINNESOTA'S POLLS

By **SUSAN DU**

I. UNNECESSARY LITIGATION

IN MINNESOTA, certain criminal offenses—violent and non-violent—called for up to 40 years of supervised release contingent on strict adherence to a minefield of conditions.

Felons on probation have to take random drug tests in order to stay out of lockup. They have to maintain housing and employment. They can't have guns. And they're not allowed to vote.

The American Civil Liberties Union believes that last one is indefensible.

Suing the state in October, the ACLU argued that disenfranchising felons does nothing to promote personal responsibility or social cohesion. Instead, voting forces people to care about their communities, which is why crime-fighting interests like the American Probation

and Parole Association and the Minnesota County Attorneys Association also want the right restored.

If the ACLU wins its case in time, 52,000 probationers serving felony sentences will get to cast a vote in November's presidential election, while those currently incarcerated will not. Sixteen other states follow that bright-line rule. (Maine and Vermont also allow inmates to vote from prison.)

Secretary of State Steve Simon, who directs elections, is being sued in his professional capacity. Attorney General Keith Ellison is his lawyer. But while the officials have to bat for the state in court, both have called for the law to change.

"People who are no longer deemed—if they ever were deemed—a threat, someone who needs to be cordoned off from the rest of society, have every right to determine who governs them and how," Simon says. "To me, it's about that fundamental aspect of life."

Conservative activists quickly seized upon this apparent contradiction. Filing a request to intervene in the case, a self-identified election security group called the Minnesota Voters Alliance accused Simon and Ellison of not trying hard enough to defend laws they don't like.

Why does the MVA care? The group hasn't offered any reasons why felons shouldn't have the vote. Instead, it argues that by failing to raise a nuclear defense that would immediately dismiss the ACLU lawsuit, Simon and Ellison were wasting taxpayer funds on unnecessary litigation.

What is that defense? The MVA claims Minnesotans can't sue over violations of the state constitution because the state Legislature never enacted its own version of the federal law allowing people to sue for civil rights under the U.S. Constitution.

It sounds plausible, but isn't true. Minnesotans who have successfully sued their

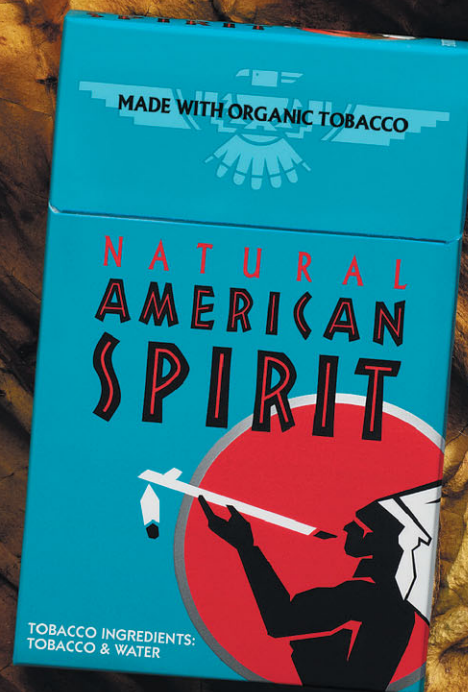
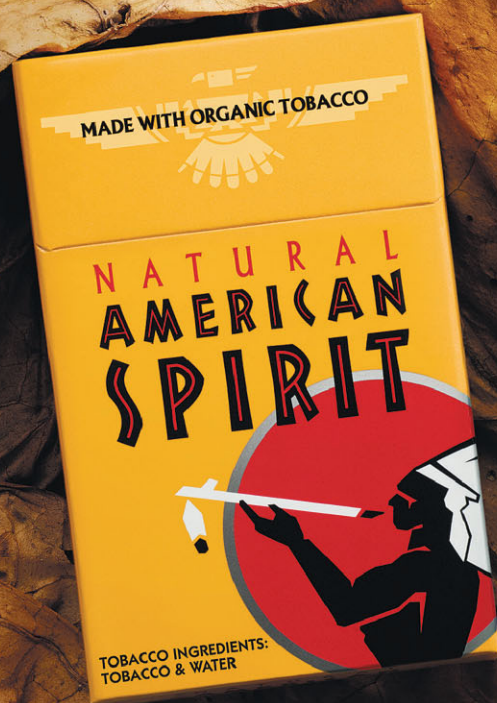
government using the state constitution include a Coates strip club owner and a Minneapolis landlord left with a hole in his wall after police crashed through in an unexpected drug raid, among many others.

Oddly enough, MVA has also sued Minnesota before, alleging violations of its constitution. In fact, through its many lawsuits over the years, MVA has cost the state and its taxpayers a not-insignificant amount of money.

MVA didn't respond to multiple requests for comment. Nevertheless, the group's protracted wars in the courts and the polls leave little ambiguity about the thrust of their crusade—invalidate voters.

THE ONLY OF ITS KIND

MADE WITH ORGANIC TOBACCO



REAL. SIMPLE. DIFFERENT.

AmericanSpirit.com*



CIGARETTES

©2020 SFNTC (Q1)

*Website restricted to age 21+ smokers.

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Quitting Smoking
Now Greatly Reduces Serious Risks to Your Health.

Organic tobacco does **NOT**
mean a safer cigarette.

Natural American Spirit cigarettes
are not safer than other cigarettes.



KOE WETZEL

Thursday 4.16



IN THIS MOMENT & BLACK VEIL BRIDES

Ded, Raven Black
Friday 4.17



KAYZO

18+
Friday 5.01



TECH N9NE

Jelly Roll, Krizz Kaliko,
King Iso, Maez301
Thursday 5.07



KEVIN GATES

Tuesday 6.02

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT MYTHLIVE.COM OR ETIX.COM | ELECTRIC FETUS
3090 SOUTHLAWN DRIVE | ST. PAUL, MN 55109 651.779.MYTH (6984)

MYTH

L I V E



GLEN STUBBE

II. TILTING AT WINDMILLS

MINNESOTA TAKES the cake for the highest voter turnout rates in the country. More than three-fourths of eligible voters usually participate in presidential elections—a solid C, but leagues above the failing national average of 55 percent.

For that, Minnesotans can thank a luxurious menu of options that make casting a ballot relatively hassle-free. It includes early voting, absentee voting, online registration, and Election Day registration. Managers of group homes, including battered women's shelters whose residents shield their address from public records, can vouch for everyone living in the facility.

Not everybody appreciates the accommodations. A zealous hodgepodge of conservative activists believe that because Minnesota has wide-open voting laws, it must also suffer from the highest rates of voter fraud in America.

These activists have organized under many banners over the years, including Minnesota Majority, Election Integrity Watch, the North Star Tea Party Patriots, Minnesota Freedom Council, and Minnesota Voters Alliance, whose members and missions overlap.

Officially, they say they want to protect the sanctity of one man, one vote.

In practice, they're given to saber-rattling against imagined incursions of vote-snatching felons and undocumented immigrants. In 2012 they championed a referendum to institute voter ID, which Minnesotans rejected after it caused consternation among the state's nursing-home residents, many of whom have let their driver's licenses lapse and don't have copies of their birth certificates. Proponents also failed to name a single ID in existence that could prove voter eligibility. They've populated billboards and op-ed sections of newspapers

A decade ago, Minnesota Voters Alliance activist Dan McGrath alleged thousands of instances of voter fraud in the 2008 election, using flawed data analysis to send Minnesota county attorneys on a wild goose chase.

around the state with conspiracies in want of evidence, claiming permissive laws and ambivalent prosecutors have buried the skeletons of stolen elections.

Over the years, a couple of leaders have emerged from the movement.

One is Dan McGrath, who once published an exposé alleging more than 2,800 people voted illegally in the 2008 election, tipping the scales for Barack Obama and Al Franken.

County attorneys across Minnesota were forced to review the list. Some hired extra staff. Soon, they ran into problems.

Investigations turned up people with common names who lived in the same precinct, as well as juniors and seniors living under the same roof. There was a college kid who voted without knowing mom had already turned in her absentee ballot. An 80-year-old who'd double-dipped. Homeless people couch-surfing.

"Are felons essentially deciding elections in Minnesota?" That was their thesis. And their proof was all of this data," recalls Dennis Gerhardtstein, Ramsey County Attorney's Office spokesman.

Between 2006 and 2011, or three general elections, 114 people out of 681,000 were convicted of ineligible voting in Ramsey County. That's 0.01 percent.

Hennepin County charged only 38 out of 660,000 people who voted in 2010—0.005 percent.

Rates of ineligible voting convictions have stayed consistent—and statistically insignificant—through the years.

Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman says after the 2016 election, his office charged 43 people. All but one were felons who registered but didn't actually vote.



LEILA NAVIDI/STAR TRIBUNE

Some could have been nearing the end of probation and preparing to get their rights back. But because it's another felony for a felon to even register, those at all confused about the rules were out of luck.

"That's what a joke [McGrath's exposé] was back then," Freeman says. "Universally what we find is people making mistakes, not understanding."

For the love of concision, he supports a bright-line rule: While you're in prison you can't vote; when you're out, you can.

McGrath has since taken a backseat as spokesman for another election security warrior, Andrew Cilek, president of the Minnesota Voters Alliance.

Cilek is Tea Party famous for showing up to the polls in 2010 wearing a Gadsden flag T-shirt and a button reading, "Please I.D. Me." Election judges objected. Minnesota law banned political clothing at the polls, but didn't require voters to produce photo ID. Those in line might have read Cilek's button, second-guessed what they knew of the law, and gone home. Cilek was jettisoned from the polls.

So he sued the state. In 2018, the U.S. Supreme Court vindicated him, throwing out Minnesota's century-old voting dress code as overbroad. Minnesota lost \$1.3 million in attorney fees. Cilek gets to wear whatever he wants.

Under McGrath and Cilek's leadership, MVA has repeatedly gone to the courts to either erect speedbumps between people and the polls, or fight Twin Cities initiatives to encourage voter turnout.

It once accused Minneapolis' ranked choice voting system of diminishing the strength of an individual's first choice. That didn't square mathematically.

Next, MVA filed a federal suit calling for some 22,000 disabled people under guardianship—who always get to vote unless there is a court order specifically revoking their right—to be examined for competency at the polls. A judge dismissed

MVA wants Attorney General Keith Ellison to fight harder against restoring voting rights to felons this year.

that suggestion without much discussion.

MVA then went after former Secretary of State Mark Ritchie for setting up an online voter registration system. State law permitted registration only in person or by mail. The court agreed and ordered the site taken down, but then the Legislature simply updated the law.

At the moment, MVA is battling Minneapolis and St. Paul, hoping to overturn ordinances mandating that landlords provide new tenants with information about voter registration because, "these ordinances violate landlords' First Amendment right of free speech by forcing them to be agents of the cities' 'ideology' that voter registration is good." That lawsuit is ongoing.

Despite all their rage, MVA's holy grail—proof of widespread voter fraud—remains elusive.

To prove their case once and for all, Cilek and McGrath plan to construct another independent audit, this time by obtaining complete data sets on felons and all Minnesotans registered to vote. This data will purportedly reveal the "true extent" of ineligible voting in Minnesota by identifying individuals who broke the law but weren't prosecuted.

Secretary of State Steve Simon has given MVA certain voter data including things like name, address, and birth year. But he's withholding other information such as whether red flags have ever been raised in the process of verifying a voter against various state and federal databases—"challenges" that warrant further investigation, but aren't definitive proof of fraud. That data isn't listed as "public," but it's not "restricted" either.

Oral arguments were made before the Minnesota Supreme Court in November after two lower courts ordered the state to fork over the data. If MVA prevails, the

Harriet Bart, *Pendulum*, 2003. Collection of the artist.



WAM

Harriet Bart: Abracadabra and Other Forms of Protection

February 1 ▾ May 24, 2020

Free admission



This exhibition is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to the legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



Weisman Art Museum
333 East River Road
Minneapolis, MN 55455
wam.umn.edu



Sweetheart Ticket Pack

THURS, FEB 13 • 7:00 PM



[VS]



INCLUDES CAKE TRUFFLES AND TWO (2) DRINK
TICKETS FOR THE ADULT HOT COCOA BAR

WILD.COM/SWEETHEART

OUR STATE. OUR TEAM. OUR ICE.

**STRIKE
THEATER**

HEARTGASM!

A VALENTINE'S VARIETY SHOW

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2020 | 9PM

824 18th Ave NE | Minneapolis, Minnesota | strike.theater



Mill District
DENTAL

NEW PATIENT OFFERS:

\$99 Exam

X-Rays & Cleaning

**Free
Whitening**

with Exam, X-Rays
and Cleaning

Limit one offer per patient
Offers cannot be combined

DR. BRIAN PETERS

612.877.8888 • milledistrictdental.com
1026 Washington Ave S #100 • Mpls



EGGROLL QUEEN
MUSIC LIVE CAFE

1579 Hamline Ave. N.
Falcon Heights, MN 55108
(651) 644 - 9959



Cafe Hours & Live Music

Monday - Wednesday 8:00 - 5:30

Thursday - Saturday 8:00 - 9:00

Sunday Open Mic every Sunday 8:00 - 8:00

**Talented local bands, come & play at
the Eggroll Queen's Stage**

For booking/info, contact us at
UndergroundCafeBooking@gmail.com

Delicious JUMBO Egg Rolls

Chicken, pork, vegetable, steak,
breakfast, cheesy chicken,
pizza, taco & dessert.

Rice Bowls

Fried rice, honey beef,
pork ginger, sweet & spicy
chicken, chicken teriyaki ...

Lunch Special (M-F: 11am - 1pm)

Queen Meal 12.95

Fried rice (chicken/veggie) * one egg roll
on beverage (soda, coffee, tea)

**10%
off!**

Bring this ad for a 10% off
Cannot be combined with
other promotions.
Expires 3/31/2020.



#EggrollQueen

www.EggrollQueen1.com

Best Egg Rolls In Town



GLEN STUBBE

expectation is it'll manipulate data to best serve its agenda just as McGrath's report did 10 years ago.

After all, the activists have never acknowledged the problems with their "study," which wasted significant law enforcement resources and misled the media. Nevertheless, they're again keeping a tight lid on their methodology.

III. LIGHTNING ODDS

ELIZER DARRIS is 36 years old. He's never voted, and under current law, he won't have the right to do so until 2025.

Darris was a 14-year-old runaway from St. Louis who roamed the country with a traveling carnival. At 15, while laid over in Polk County, he had a drunken dispute with a man about who'd win in a fight. Darris beat the man to death and left him in a field. He was sentenced to life in prison.

There, Darris earned a GED and a college degree. After 17 years, he won his release after successfully getting his first-degree murder conviction remanded to second-degree. Immediately, he went to volunteer for former State Sen. Terri Bonoff's congressional campaign, and now works as a motivational speaker.

He's also a lead plaintiff in the American Civil Liberties Union's voting rights restoration case.

"My desire is to be allowed to fully participate in the most run-of-the-mill action that allows us to call this nation a democracy," he says. "I pay taxes. I obey all the laws. My family members' children are going to school, but I can't vote for any of those school board members that make the policies that affect them. It's like being a ghost."

Of the manifold laws that restrict his life, Darris admits voting wasn't the most immediate of his concerns post-prison. He couldn't visit his mother without permission.

Elizer Darris, a teenage runaway incarcerated at 15, is a lead plaintiff in the ACLU's lawsuit, which argues felon disenfranchisement is unconstitutional.

He had to maintain housing, which required a paying job—something of a catch-22. He had to check in with a probation officer on a weekly basis. Failing any one of those orders could land him back in prison on a technicality.

The idea that people who are hyper-aware that their freedom balances on a razor's edge would risk it all to orchestrate voter fraud just isn't practical, says Darris' lawyer, David McKinney.

"I don't know of anyone who would risk going to jail because of going to the voting polls."

But if someone serving a felony were to vote, this is what would happen.

He'd show up at the polls and give his name. If he's already in the Statewide Voter Registration System, a "C" for "challenged" would show up next to his record. He'd sign an affidavit swearing the database is wrong. He'd proceed to vote. After the election, police would verify that affidavit, and he'd get charged with a felony.

If he isn't in the system, he could have a registered voter vouch for him. He'd sign an affidavit and get charged with a felony. So could the voucher.

He could impersonate someone who's eligible to vote without their knowledge. If that person also votes, he'd be exposed and charged with a felony.

Fraudulent ballots from Election Day registrants can't be clawed out of the final count. But the number of convictions that result from post-election investigations discredits the theory that there are many of them to begin with.

According to court records, a total of 92 felons have been convicted for casting a ballot in Minnesota since 2016, less than 0.001 percent of the total turnout—odds

EVERYBODY KNEADS A LITTLE SUGAR

ISLES BUN & COFFEE

28th & Hennepin in Uptown

**MỸ HƯƠNG
KITCHEN**

cat street • mpls
Rated Best Restaurant in Minnesota
No. 1
yelp
2016

BEST PHO IN TOWN!

Gluten Free & Vegan
Options Available!

2718 Nicollet Ave S
Ste. 101B, Minneapolis
(612) 702-2922
(612) 872-2323

Authentic Vietnamese Cuisine

BANH MI PHO BUBBLE TEA FRENCH CREPES

Microblading

\$350 FULL SET OF BROWS & TOUCH UP
FEBRUARY 2020

612-875-6717
2211 LYNDALE AVE SOUTH | MINNEAPOLIS
MPLSTATTOOSHOP.COM



490 N Robert, Downtown Saint Paul | TICKETS: WWW.CAMP-BAR.NET



Feb 7, 8
NICK HOFF

with Nathan Hults & Matt Dooyema



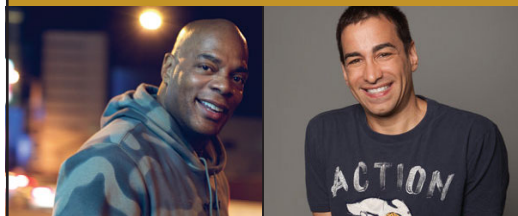
Feb 14, 15
TODD ANDREWS

with Charlie Kojis and Tom Chillstromm



Coming in March
ALONZO BODDEN
from NPR's Wait Wait...Don't Tell Me

Coming in April
MITCH FATEL



VOCALPOINT'S 9TH SEASON

HIGH GEAR
FEB 8 AND 9
SUPPORTING EXPRESS BIKE SHOP

Saturday, Feb. 8 at 4 pm
Sunday, Feb. 9 at 4 pm
Central Presbyterian Church
500 Cedar Street
Downtown St. Paul

FEATURING

F20 BOTS

Tickets: \$15 in advance
\$20 at the door
VocalPointChorus.org



NICOLE NERI/STAR TRIBUNE

political scientists have compared unfavorably to winning the lottery or getting struck by lightning.

"If there were a bunch of cases slipping through the cracks, I just don't know how that would happen," says Hennepin County Elections Manager Ginny Gelms.

She doubts that members of the public could arbitrate whether someone has committed voter fraud—even if they obtained complete voter registration data—because a litany of human and computer errors can wrongfully flag innocent people as "challenged."

Often, one of the many databases that feed into the voter registration system is slower or faster to update than another, and a person recently discharged from probation might still have a "C." Sometimes, when people with felonies renew their driver's licenses, the clerk behind the computer at the DMV will accidentally check the box to register them. Investigators have to track down the original paperwork.

As with almost all criminal code, prosecutors must also determine whether someone intentionally broke the law.

Nevertheless, plenty of people who claim ignorance of the law are still convicted of ineligible voting. In recent years, those hapless Minnesotans include a University of Minnesota student who tried to sell his vote on eBay for \$10, a Minneapolis Community and Technical College student who voted for a Minneapolis City Council member when she lived in St. Louis Park, and a Wilmar man less than a month away from completing probation.

Proponents of a bright-line rule argue it would make it easier to differentiate between those who intend to break election laws, and those who get tripped up by the murky matrix of restrictions that govern the lives of probationers. Opponents say individuals should be responsible for keeping their heads above water.

In any case, if the court decides to grant felons the vote this year, it would disarm

Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman and the state County Attorneys Association support extending the vote to all citizens post-incarceration, in order to strengthen community connections and reduce crime.

MVA's impending public service announcement using registration data—whatever it says—to show how Minnesota's elections are riddled with fraud.

IV. THE VOTER FRAUD DILEMMA

HAMLIN UNIVERSITY Prof. David Schultz has taught election law for about 25 years. In the early 2000s, the topic of election-invalidating voter fraud came into vogue, and he became fascinated with the paradox it posed.

How could America reconcile dismal voter turnout and allegations that millions of criminals were rigging elections?

In 2016, when Donald Trump was the Republican presidential nominee, he preemptively blamed voter fraud in case he lost. After the election, when he'd won the electoral college but fell 3.5 million votes short of a popular mandate, he doubled down.

About half of states now employ voter ID laws after proponents claimed they would detect illegal voting. Yet none of those states have seen an uptick in convictions, Schultz says.

"You can't say because there's no voter ID, there's no proof of voter fraud, and at the same time say voter IDs deterred fraud from occurring," he says. "From a logical and social science perspective, those arguments are completely incoherent."

With or without evidence, the mere accusation of fraud has convinced states to cull their voter rolls.

Wisconsin is on the cusp of purging hundreds of thousands of registered vot-



BILL KELLEY

ers who failed to respond to a letter from its elections commission within 30 days. New Hampshire wants to restrict students by redefining “residence” to exclude college dorms. Though the people of Florida recently overturned ex-felons’ lifetime voting ban via referendum, their supreme court ruled that individuals must pay off all the fines and fees attached to their convictions—potentially tens of thousands of dollars—before they can hit the polls.

When purported election security vigilantes like Minnesota Voters Alliance oppose felons’ right to vote, they often can’t avoid throwing in an implicit assumption that underscores the whole point of their opposition: Felons are Democrats.

“There is a good reason liberal lawmakers and governors across the country are eager to pass laws allowing felons to vote. A recent study conducted by the Academy of Political and Social Sciences indicates that seven out of 10 convicts register as Democrats,” Andrew Cilek writes on the MVA website.

University of Minnesota Prof. Chris Uggen, whose research is frequently the foundation for this oft-repeated statistic, says the focus on partisanship is misplaced because “the short answer is, we don’t really know” how people on probation would vote if they could.

His 2002 study extrapolated the voting habits of Americans along race and income and applied them to the disenfranchised felon population. He concluded that felons, who are disproportionately poor and people of color, would be more likely than the general population to lean left.

He didn’t consider education nor the hometowns to which prisoners returned following their release. Not to mention how demographics of partisanship have shifted over the past two decades, Uggen says.

The 2016 election was extremely racially polarized. Trump was almost universally shunned by people of color, while a slight increase of poor white people turned out

Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon, who wants to get as many eligible Minnesotans to the polls as possible, has repeatedly battled MVA in court.

for him despite their historical penchant for the Democratic Party. Yet education proved to be a stronger factor than income. Trump’s core supporters were middle- and upper-class people without college degrees.

A more recent study out of Northwestern University found that people with felonies, like the rest of the general population, forge their partisan loyalties most strongly along race. It concluded that while upward of 70 percent of black men with records register as Democrats, white men with records behaved almost in mirror opposite.


In a state like Minnesota, where most prisoners and probationers are white, restoring the vote wouldn’t result in DFL ascendancy. Just as North Dakota, Indiana, Ohio, and Utah aren’t liberal bastions despite adopting bright-line rules.

“Questions about the right to vote, which are really fundamental, shouldn’t rest on the likely voting behavior of those who would regain the vote,” Uggen says. “There’s been a ton of action on this issue largely around civil rights, rather than a partisan vote grab.”

Yet bills to restore the vote keep stalling in the Minnesota Legislature, compelling the ACLU to restage the fight in court, says ACLU lawyer Theresa Lee.

There are no fact disputes in its lawsuit against the state, just differing opinions of the law’s constitutionality. With no need for a jury trial, the judge could rule to restore felons’ voting rights in advance of November’s election.

But if MVA is allowed to intervene in the case, they’ll be folded into the proceedings like a third party, which can add costs and delay deadlines.

The judge will decide whether MVA has a case this spring. 

Advertorial



NOTHING BUT HEMP

Siskiyou Sungrown continues to prove value and excellence with Best of 2020 award

Nothing But Hemp’s national house brand CBD, Siskiyou Sungrown, recently received further recognition for its fantastic farm-to-table hemp oils.

Siskiyou Sungrown brings the best organic cannabidiol tinctures, balms and treats to customers across the country from its family-owned and operated farms in Oregon. Now, a new ranking list from Marijuana SEO ranked Siskiyou as one of the top 16 cannabis companies of the new year.

By offering both THC-based marijuana products for customers in states where recreational and medicinal marijuana are legal along with non-psychoactive CBD products for those in other states, Siskiyou has grown established as a leader among hemp endeavors.

Marijuana SEO is a firm for cannabis advertising, but the importance of industry acknowledgements for valuable brands like Siskiyou Sungrown can hardly be overstated.

In an often wild and newfangled market for CBD and hemp products, people don’t always know where to turn to get their products.

As more find out how many normal people swear by CBD for their anxiety, insomnia, they’ve sometimes encountered obstacles en route to learning the ins and outs of the industry, especially which products to trust.

Luckily, all Siskiyou Sungrown CBD products are lab-tested, organic and offer full-spectrum CBD relief. People use the CBD oils and tinctures for a litany of uses, and its proven quality and industry recognition make it a great addition to the Nothing But Hemp roster.

“I’m proud to see Siskiyou Sungrown on this list of the top 16 cannabis brands for 2020,” Nothing But Hemp CEO Steven Brown said. “Organic from start to finish, from soil to oil, Siskiyou Sungrown continues to set the bar for health and wellness cannabinoid products.”

Nothing But Hemp prides itself on connecting customers with products they can trust and providing CBD science education and guidance for newcomers and veterans of the market alike.

As Nothing But Hemp’s signature house brand, Siskiyou Sungrown CBD has proved the company proud yet again for its quality of service and offerings. No matter your CBD and hemp needs, Nothing But Hemp can connect you with products like Siskiyou Sungrown in Nevada, Florida and Minnesota, as well as online.

Siskiyou products join other leading CBD brands like Charlotte’s Web CBD, Wyld CBD vapes, and Minny Grown CBD among Nothing But Hemp’s catalogue. Visit a Nothing But Hemp location today, and be sure to ask about Siskiyou Sungrown organic CBD!

LOCATIONS

MAPLEWOOD MALL
3001 White Bear Ave
Maplewood, MN 55109

FOREST LAKE
143 Lake St N
Forest Lake, MN 55025

SAINT PAUL
844 Grand Ave
Saint Paul, MN 55105

UPTOWN
617 W Lake St
Minneapolis, MN 55408

CLOQUET
6 N 14th St
Cloquet, MN 55720

WHITE BEAR LAKE
4762 Banning Ave,
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Find us on Facebook  /nothingbuthemp

www.nothingbuthemp.net

WEST METRO **HOME REMODELING FAIR**

Free admission • Free parking • homeremodelingfair.com

Sun, Feb 9
10:30 am–3 pm
Eisenhower Community Center
1001 Hwy 7, Hopkins

Specializing in Ecuadorian, Colombian, and Peruvian cuisines.



Lomo Saltado



Llapingacho



317 W Lake St. Mpls. | 612-825-1700 | www.losandesrestaurantmpls.com

Big Marina
GRILL & DELI
GREEK • MEDITERRANEAN • AMERICAN

Sun–Thur 9am–10pm • Fri–Sat 9am–11pm
4755 Central Avenue • Columbia Heights
763.571.0222

Try the Best Lamb Shank in town!
Featured on our buffet, daily!

GYRO COMBO \$6.99

Valid 7 days a week. Good only at Columbia Heights location. Expires 2/11/2020. Not valid on holidays.

BUY ONE BUFFET GET ONE HALF OFF

Valid Monday–Thursday only. Good only at Columbia Heights location. Expires 2/11/2020. Not valid on holidays.

25+ PICKUP LOCATIONS

featherstone farm
locally and organically grown fruits and vegetables
Customized Vegetable Shares
JUNE THROUGH OCTOBER
Weekly Vegetable Share Delivery - Made Just for You!
Local. Certified Organic. Fresh.

Rushford, Minnesota (507) 864-2400 featherstonefarm.com



www.HobanKoreanBBQ.com

@HobanUptown

(612) 345-7214

2939 HENNEPIN AVE SOUTH, MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55408

#NiceBuns

KEEFER COURT
BAKERY & CAFÉ
326 CEDAR AVE
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55454
612-340-0937
WWW.KEEFER.COURT.COM
@KEEFER.COURT

MENTION THIS AD FOR 10% OFF

BY EMILY CASSEL

If you're closing your tab at Meteor and the bartender hands you an empty High Life, don't take it.

Meteor Bar started slinging drinks in mid-December, about a month after Bar Brava opened mere steps away. And so many people have been killing time on the former's barstools before their table is ready at the latter that Meteor co-owner Robb Jones says it's become something of a running joke: What if we gave people a beer can and told them they'd need it to be seated around the corner?

(The spots are not related, for the record—please don't bring empties from Meteor or elsewhere with you when heading to Brava.)

Proximity and the occasional shared patrons aside, the two are very different drinking establishments. Bar Brava is a natural wine bar, Minneapolis's first; Meteor is a good old-fashioned neighborhood haunt. Brava is all white tile, white brick, stainless-steel countertops; Meteor has dark black booths lining one wall, an old wooden rail on the other. At one bar, you can order fried cephalopods and masa dumplings in pasilla broth from chef/co-owner Nick Anderson, former sous chef at San Francisco's trendy, utensil-less cocktail hotspot ABV. The other has Mucci's frozen pizza.

Let's start with Bar Brava, which—all due respect to the folks doing a Meteor-then-Brava bang-bang—is where you should start. (Brava closes at 11 or 12, depending on the day of the week, and Meteor's open 'til 2 nightly. Just sayin'.) This bar comes from co-owner Dan Rice—Apple Valley-born finance student turned NYC investment banker turned natural wine guy—along with Anderson and sommelier Jill Mott.

In the simplest terms, “natural wine” has been farmed organically and made without adding or removing anything in the cellar. It's the big wine trend of the moment, “a source of indie social capital,” per a recent and succinct Vox explainer. You can't get it everywhere—it's hard to find outside of major cities, and even in major cities, only some wine shops carry it. (Henry and Son is the Twin Cities' go-to.) But walking into Brava, you'll pass a giant fridge packed full of them: juicy orange and pink wines with brightly colored labels beckoning through the glass.

If you aren't super familiar with natty wine—and even if you are—Brava's bottle list might seem a little daunting. That bad boy is long, with a lot of stuff you just can't find anywhere else in the Twin Cities. But plenty of bottles are in the \$60 to \$70 range,

NORTH STARS

Two very good, very different North Side bars just opened within stumbling distance of each other



MADALYN ROWELL

BAR BRAVA

1914 Washington Ave. N., Minneapolis
612-208-1270, barbravamn.com

METEOR BAR

2027 N. Second St., Minneapolis
612-886-2483, meteormpls.com

and if you'd rather start small, there are rotating by-the-glass options, plus a few tap ciders and some beers.

Don't know a La Boutanche Pet Nat from a Petit Carlania? Are you Googling those words to see if I made them up? Honestly, that's fine! Bartenders were more than happy to handle our (numerous) questions, even sneaking off to the back to grab a journal full of handwritten notes from a recent tasting.

Food-wise, stuff here changes often—sometimes daily. But given the opportunity, you need to order the Kofta Meatballs: bite-

sized, herb-y Mediterranean morsels with olives and labneh so good you'll want to order another plate the second you polish them off. Also, get the Winter Toast, with a bed of house kimchi topped by a truly hefty helping of fried octopus... somehow for only \$13? The ribs have an interesting natty wine barbecue sauce, and though ours were on the dry side, the chochoyotes (a Mexican corn dumpling soup) more than compensated for it.

When you're full of wine and snacks, walk the .2 miles to Meteor and hop onto one

of those barstools. Co-owners Robb Jones (former bar director for Gavin Kaysen's restaurants) and Elliot Manthey (former Spoon and Stable bartender) made Meteor in the image of the after-hours industry haunts servers and bartenders frequent: intimate and unfussy, with good energy and cheap drinks. The building has been a bar for more than 100 years; it once housed the infamously dive-y Stand Up Frank's.

Standard cocktails here are \$8, and Meteor creations are \$12. Of those, we really dug the predictably pineapple-y Pineapple Pineapple and the Cloud City—turns out Aquavit, Absinthe, root beer, and egg white make a mean winter drink.

But it's the Boiler list where you'll have the most fun. Meteor's curated a selection of beer-and-a-bump pairings that are a little more interesting than your tried-and-trues: Think Montucky Cold Snack with a shot of Jim Beam Black (“Stable Boyz”) or Lawless Fernet alongside a hearty stout (“Cabin in the Woods”). “Misty Eyed” matches Del Maguey Vida mezcal and a can of Tecate, which arrives garnished with a handful of Doritos.

If you're still hungry, have the bartenders throw a Mucci's frozen pizza in the oven behind the bar. Get it Meteor style if you want it topped with an egg, pepperoncinis, and chili flakes, plus a little drizzle of balsamic.

What Meteor and Bar Brava have in common, beyond their postal code, is that laid-back, effortless playfulness that makes them... just generally nice places to hang out. Meteor is like Grumpy's, if Grumpy's juiced its own pineapples for cocktails. They've got Japanese whiskey paired with Hefeweizen—but if you want a Hamm's and a shot of Jameson, well shoot, you can get that too.

Meanwhile, if your eyes reflexively roll at the phrase “natural wine bar,” know that Bar Brava isn't a place where you're shamed for not knowing who Ruth Lewandowski is. Its menus bear the aphorism “Keep it natty, keep it nice,” and beneath a few lines explaining just what natural wine is, there's a simplification: “Nothing added, nothing removed, just fucking juice.”

Actually, the more I think about it, the more the two bars have in common. Both are kinda fancied-up, but comfortable. Both are doing things like almost no one in town, be it natural wine or uncommon spirits. It's almost like they meet in the middle—Meteor a dive bar, but elevated; Brava a wine bar, but cheeky.

And they're both very, very good. **CB**

UP NEXT AT

FIRST AVENUE & 7th St entry

Your Downtown Danceteria Since 1970

BUY TICKETS AT
FIRST-AVENUE.COM

FEATURED SHOWS



BIG HEAD TODD AND THE MONSTERS
FT. HAZEL MILLER
WITH LOS COLOGNES
PALACE THEATRE

FEB 21



BIG THIEF
PALACE THEATRE

JULY 21

FIRST AVENUE MAINROOM



JJ GREY & MOFRO
WITH FREDDY & FRANCINE

FEB 07



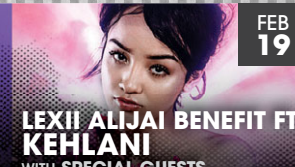
THE SUBURBS
WITH MILOE, DJ JAKE RUDH

FEB 14



**ED ACKERSON
CELEBRATION
OF LIFE BENEFIT**
FT. THE JAYHAWKS, KRAIG
JARRET JOHNSON, BNIX,
POLARA, & MORE

FEB 15



**LEXII ALIJAI BENEFIT FT.
KEHLANI**
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

FEB 19



LIL TJAY
WITH THE KID LAROI

FEB 20



**90s
ALL THAT
90s PARTY**
WITH DJ DAVE PAUL, DJ MARCO

FEB 21



RAPHAEL SAADIQ
WITH JAMILA WOODS, DJ DUGGZ

FEB 22



**DASHBOARD
CONFESSIONAL**
WITH THE GET UP KIDS

FEB 25



**GO SHOW WITH
IRATION**
WITH IYA TERRA, BALLYHOO!,
THE RIES BROTHERS

FEB 28



SAINT MOTEL
WITH KOLARS

FEB 29

PALACE THEATRE



GRACE POTTER
WITH DEVON GILFILLIAN

FEB 08



**CALEXICO AND
IRON & WINE**
WITH MADISON CUNNINGHAM

FEB 14



TOVE LO
WITH ALMA

FEB 20



ATMOSPHERE
WITH THE LIONESS, NIKKI JEAN,
DJ KEEZY

FEB 28



ERIC NAM
WITH FRENSHIP

FEB 29

FITZGERALD THEATER



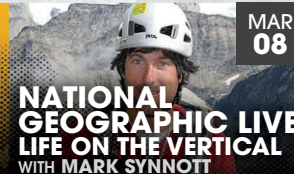
**LADYSMITH BLACK
MAMBAZO**

MAR 01



**KAMASI
WASHINGTON**

MAR 04



**NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC LIVE**
LIFE ON THE VERTICAL
WITH MARK SYNNOTT

MAR 08



**WINE & CRIME
PODCAST**

MAR 21



**WELCOME TO
NIGHT VALE**
WITH ELIZA RICKMAN

MAR 23

FINE LINE



**LATINXPOLIS
CELEBRATION OF
LATINX MOVEMENT**
W/ MARIA ISA, CRISTIAN BACA, queenDUIN

FEB 07



**ROBERT RANDOLPH
& THE FAMILY BAND**
W/ BUFFALO NICHOLS

FEB 08



SLIPPERY PEOPLE
THE MUSIC OF TALKING HEADS
W/ DJ ELSEWHERE

FEB 15



NASCAR ALOE
W/ KidsNextDoor

FEB 05



**THE PARANOYS AND
SPENTTIME PALACE**
W/ IN LIEU

FEB 09



ELECTRIC GUEST
W/ SOLEIMA

FEB 18



ECHOSMITH
W/ WEATHERS, JAYDEN BARTELS

FEB 21



**AMERICAN
NIGHTMARE**
W/ CEREMONY

FEB 22



MINIATURE TIGERS
W/ KATZU OSO

FEB 06



LIFE SO FAR
FT. BERI, KOKOU KAH, OBI ORIGINAL,
BAKARII, ANJYBEY, CHINWE, & MORE

FEB 10

TURF CLUB



JULIANA HATFIELD
W/ THE SUNSHINE BOYS

FEB 05



THE BLUE STONES
W/ JJ WILDE

FEB 06



**SARAH MORRIS
RELEASE SHOW**
W/ HALEY RYDELL

FEB 07



ILLITERATE LIGHT
W/ CAMP HOWARD

FEB 07



**CHRIS DAVIES & THE
PROMISE LAND BAND**
W/ LITTLE MAN (SOLO), WHY WORRY?

FEB 11



**OTTO'S
CHEMICAL LOUNGE**
W/ DUMPSTER JUICE,
THE CARNEGIES, & MORE

FEB 08




**A TRIBUTE TO
JAMES TAYLOR AND
SIMON & GARFUNKEL**

FEB 09



ERIK KOSKINEN
W/ GEOFFREY LAMAR WILSON

FEB 10



MAGIC BEANS
W/ DEMITRI RALLIS & FRIENDS

FEB 08



PALACE
W/ JANET MAY

FEB 12

7TH ST ENTRY



NASCAR ALOE
W/ KidsNextDoor

FEB 05



**THE PARANOYS AND
SPENTTIME PALACE**
W/ IN LIEU

FEB 09



MINIATURE TIGERS
W/ KATZU OSO

FEB 06



LIFE SO FAR
FT. BERI, KOKOU KAH, OBI ORIGINAL,
BAKARII, ANJYBEY, CHINWE, & MORE

FEB 10




ILLITERATE LIGHT
W/ CAMP HOWARD

FEB 07



**CHRIS DAVIES & THE
PROMISE LAND BAND**
W/ LITTLE MAN (SOLO), WHY WORRY?

FEB 11



MAGIC BEANS
W/ DEMITRI RALLIS & FRIENDS

FEB 08



PALACE
W/ JANET MAY

FEB 12



89.3 THE CURRENT,
FIRST AVENUE, AND
JAM PRESENT

wilco

ode to joy
tour

MARCH 10
DECC SYMPHONY HALL
DULUTH, MN

A LIST

SATURDAY Trans trailblazer Susan Kimberly p. 19 **SUNDAY** Oscar parties at LUSH and the Saloon p. 21 **TUESDAY** Beer and doughnuts for Galentine's p. 21

WEDNESDAY 2.5

COMEDY

PETE LEE

ACME COMEDY CO.

Wisconsin native Pete Lee is glad he wasn't accepted by the big university in his home state. He ended up at the University of Minnesota, where he discovered standup comedy. "I'm so lucky I didn't wind up at the University of Wisconsin. I would have gotten drunk every night and flunked out." Instead, he found Acme Comedy Co. "I remember going with some friends to see Nick Swardson, who was a young phenom," Lee recalls. "I saw a show where he emceed, Mitch Hedberg featured, and Doug Stanhope headlined. It was such a cool show to see in college. Soon after, I signed up for my first open mic." It went well, as he had been writing jokes for some time in preparation. "I went to my college guidance counselor the next day," Lee adds. A pre-med student, he asked what degree he could switch to in order to graduate quickly. Journalism was the answer. "I didn't want to be a doctor anymore; I wanted to do comedy." It was a drastic move to make after just one open mic—especially in a business that's not known for its job security—but things worked out. "I remember when I first started doing comedy," Lee says. "My dad said, 'You need a steady job.' There was a point where my dad lost his job, both my brothers lost their jobs, and then there was me, a comedian, the only one who had income. I told you so, Dad!" 18+. 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. \$15-\$20. 708 N. First St., Minneapolis; 612-338-6393. **Through Saturday —P.F. WILSON**

THURSDAY 2.6

COMEDY

JOSH WOLF

RICK BRONSON'S HOUSE OF COMEDY Comedian Josh Wolf has written and appeared in several sitcoms, was a popular panelist on *Chelsea Lately*, and has been part of the comedy scene in



MEG LIONEL MURPHY

Boston, Seattle, and Los Angeles. These days, he doesn't have to look beyond his own household for material. Married for 15 years, and a father of three, Wolf has found an endless source of

inspiration in his family. "I got an iPad as a gift," he explains to an audience, "and I didn't know how to set it up, so I gave it to my son to do." His son handed it back, ready to go, and told

his father, "It's connected to the cloud, so all of our devices are connected to your iPad." The elder Wolf was scrolling through pictures one night, looking for something to post on social media. "When you're sitting in your own bed, looking at your own iPad, looking at your pictures, this is a sentence you never want to leave your mouth: 'Well, that's not my dick.'" At first, Wolf thought someone was sending his wife dick pics. Then he looked closer, and saw a desk in the backroom; the one he'd built for his son. That's when he figured it out. "I had built that desk, and that dick!" 7:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 9:45 p.m. Friday; 7 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday. \$16. 408 E. Broadway, Mall of America, Bloomington; 952-858-8558. **Through Saturday —P.F. WILSON**

FRIDAY 2.7

THEATER

DADDY LONG LEGS

JAMES J. HILL HOUSE

Uniquely immersive experiences can be created by staging work in nontraditional but thematically fitting venues. Minneapolis Musical Theatre demonstrated this with their wildly popular production of *High Fidelity* at the Electric Fetus. This time, the company mounts chamber musical *Daddy Long Legs* at the James J. Hill House. Set in early 20th-century New England, this romantic period piece follows an orphaned girl named Jerusha Abbott as she toils away at her daily routine without any future aspirations. This bleak outlook is challenged, however, when an enigmatic benefactor offers to pay for Jerusha's college education, provided she pursue a career in writing and keep him updated via letters. As Jerusha's correspondence continues, however, her smitten benefactor finds it increasingly difficult to maintain anonymity. Adapting a 1912 novel by Jean Webster, lyricist/composer Paul Gordon and playwright John Caird have crafted a charming musical that should make for an antidote to these frigid winter days.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19 ►



what's happening in the

NORTHEAST

Check out what our
local businesses have to offer.

Rhinestone Flea Market

February 9th
12 pm – 5 pm

Vintage, Art, Clothing, Jewelry,
Home Goods, and much more!

Turbo Tim's Automotive

2823 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis

SHOP MINNESOTA CRAFT BEER ★ WINE ★ SPIRITS

Monday - Thursday: 11 AM - 10 PM
Friday & Saturday: 10 AM - 10 PM
Sundays: 11 AM - 6 PM

★ OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK ★

OMBIBULOUS ★ 949 E. HENNEPIN AVE ★ MPLS

Diano Bar Nightly

HAPPY HOUR
M-F 4PM TO 6PM
SAT-SUN 11AM TO 5PM

Piano Bar | Minneapolis

112 E Hennepin Avenue
NYESBAR.COM

The Best Tacos in Minneapolis

I Heart Tacos Truck at Norseman Distillery 451 Taft Street NE

Emily's Lebanese Deli

641 University Ave
N.E. Minneapolis • (612) 379-4069
EMILYSLEBANESEDELI.COM

Support your local girl gang!

Sacred Siren Tattoo & Art Parlor

• All female staff
• Privacy curtains
• All are welcome
• Open 7 days a week
• Highest quality / implant-grade jewelry
• Clean, Respectful, & Client Satisfaction Driven
• Four stellar tattoo artists & two talented piercers

Call, Email, DM, or stop in today!
400 NE Lowry Ave • 612.666.0543

www.SacredSirenParlor.com
Email: Hello@sacredsirenparlor.com
Facebook.com/SacredSirenParlor
Instagram: @SacredSirenParlor

"Stand Ins" is rife with symbolism.



TERRENCE PAYNE, WE SENT OUT A SEARCH PARTY AND ALL THEY FOUND WAS YOU

CONTINUED FROM FRIDAY ►

For tickets go to aboutmmt.org. 7:30 p.m. Fridays through Sundays, plus Thursday, February 13. \$28-\$36. 240 Summit Ave., St. Paul; 651-297-2555. **Through February 29 —BRAD RICHASON**

BARHOPPING

OPEN SKATE AT SOCIABLE

SOCIABLE CIDER WERKS

Sociable Cider Werks' parking lot is a total ice rink, and that's a good thing. Now through March, folks can do a little free skate before warming up in the taproom. Broomball leagues and other fun will be scheduled throughout the season, too, so check in with Sociable if you're interested. Bring your own skates if you have them, otherwise they'll have pairs to rent on hand. All proceeds for admission and rentals will be donated to SACA Food Shelf & Thrift Store. 4 to 11:30 p.m. Friday; noon to 11:30 p.m. Saturday; noon to 8 p.m. Sunday. \$2 skating wristband; \$3 skate rentals. 1500 Fillmore St. NE, Minneapolis; 612-758-0105. **Through March 1 —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

SATURDAY 2.8

THEATER

SUPERMAN BECOMES LOIS LANE

HISTORY THEATRE

Autobiographical drama *Superman Becomes Lois Lane* tells the trailblazing

true story of Susan Kimberly. Making its world premiere at the History Theatre, the Laura Leffler-directed staging follows a prominent St. Paul City Council member as she comes to acknowledge her painfully repressed yearning to be a woman, and sets out to make a formal transition in 1983. Refusing to be shamed by the narrow-minded and intolerant people around her, Kimberly persevered in her new identity, setting an example as the first transgender woman to serve as a deputy mayor of a major U.S. city. Having first been workshopped as part of History Theatre's Raw Stages in 2019, this fully realized debut stars Freya Richman, and celebrates the bravery of anyone faced with reconciling the person they've been with the person they hope to someday become. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays. \$15-\$48. 30 E. 10th St., St. Paul; 651-292-4323. **Through March 1 —BRAD RICHASON**

ART/GALLERY

INTERIOR VIOLENCE

CO EXHIBITIONS

The women featured in Meg Lionel Murphy's paintings are huge, commanding, and powerful. But they didn't start that way. In "Interior Violence," Murphy imagines a world where women suddenly find themselves becoming giants after surviving trauma. Although their past has some dark moments, they have entered a new

era filled with pink floating flowers, giant velvet couches, wild cats, station wagons, and cell phone chargers. Murphy's first solo show, hosted at CO Exhibitions, will feature 22 paintings and a variety of installation items to pull you further into her world. The inspiration for the show is tied to Murphy's personal growth as a survivor of domestic violence and PTSD. "It is in the context of PTSD that I ask for my work to be viewed in the tradition of war paintings; except the battle here is in the home," says Murphy. These are women who may continue to battle, but they've already won the war. There will be an opening party on Saturday, February 8, from 7 to 10 p.m. 1101 Stinson Blvd., Minneapolis. **Through February 28 —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

ART/GALLERY

STAND INS

ROSALUX GALLERY

Symbolism, wordplay, and facades are all elements at work in Rosalux Gallery's latest exhibition, "Stand Ins." Despite the bright colors and playful animals, Terrence Payne's large-scale pastels are daunting and even ominous at times. In his latest series he examines power structures, privilege, and the violence that can erupt when these systems are challenged. "We'll be having a ball as long as the fruit continues to fall," one inscription says under a painting featuring a group of monkeys feasting on pears. "You can bury your secrets, but you can't hide all the shovels," another

announces under a collection of bones. Meanwhile, Jim Hittinger plays with the everyday and the supernatural in a series of works that often hide their wit in their titles. (His gravesite painting, *A Hill to Die On*, is both literal and snarky.) These two artists should pair well together. See their latest collections at Rosalux's opening reception from 7 to 10 p.m. Saturday, February 8. Free. 1400 Van Buren St. NE, Minneapolis; 612-747-3942. **Through February 29 —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER**

THEATER

TWELFTH NIGHT

GUTHRIE THEATER

Among the most revered of the Bard's romantic comedies, *Twelfth Night* exemplifies the narratively intertwined tropes of mistaken identities and amorous mishaps, beginning with a shipwreck that leaves twins Viola and Sebastian separated on a foreign shore. Believing her brother drowned, Viola disguises herself as Cesario, a young man seeking employment with Orsino, a nobleman who is busy pining for the unresponsive Lady Olivia. Soon Viola is crushing on Orsino, who is oblivious thanks to his fixation on Olivia. Meanwhile, Olivia has grown smitten with Viola (disguised as Cesario). Complicating matters even further, Sebastian reemerges, confused by the inexplicable behavior of those who have mistaken him for his sister. A

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21 ►

SATURDAY

ART/GALLERY

CARTOGRAPHY OF DESIRE

CATHERINE G. MURPHY GALLERY

"Cartography of Desire" has had quite a journey. It all began in 2016 with another show, "Transplant Eyes," at the now-closed Instinct Art Gallery in Minneapolis.

The exhibition featured nine foreign-born, U.S.-based artists. Each person was making work about identity while grappling with living in a new country. Since then, the show has had a number of iterations, evolving as it moves to different institutions, including the Walker's Point Center for the Arts in Milwaukee and the South Dakota Art Museum. This new installment features 12 artists from 10 different geo-political locations taking on global issues such as environmentalism, border violence, political iconoclasm, identity, and human rights. Here they're rewriting a map of sorts for a future that is intimate, heartfelt, and human. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, February 8, from 5 to 7 p.m. Free. 2004 Randolph Ave., St. Catherine University, St. Paul; 651-690-6644. **Through March 20 —SHEILA REGAN**



NIRMAL RAJA AND LOIS BIELEFELD, MILLER PARK — SARI 12

COMING SOON TO SKYWAY THEATRE

711 HENNEPIN AVE. MINNEAPOLIS, MN
BOX OFFICE: 612-333-6100

FEB 07 ARIUS W/ KANDY & 10K 	FEB 08 CARBIN THE THRONE TOUR 	FEB 12 THOUXANBANFAUNI X TEEJAYX6 W/ PAQRAT & ECHOASTRAL 	FEB 13 COM3T W/ LOCAL SUPPORT 
FEB 14 CHMST W/ SUB ARTILLERY 	FEB 14 NOIZU VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY 	FEB 15 MATOMA X TWO FRIENDS CAMP SUPERDOPE! TOUR 	FEB 16 MACHINE HEAD 25TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR 
FEB 19 MC LARS W/ THE DOUBLECLICKS 	FEB 20 CHURCH OF MISERY W/ SPECIAL GUESTS 	FEB 20 XAN GRIFFIN W/ LOCAL SUPPORT 	FEB 21 CRIZZLY W/ HAIRITAGE 
FEB 21 VADER W/ ABYSMAL DAWN & HIDEOUS DIVINITY 	FEB 22 PEEKABOO W/ TRUTH, ZEKE BEATS & ISOXO 	FEB 23 MOTHERFOLK W/ LOCAL SUPPORT 	FEB 27 MOODY GOOD W/ EFFIN 
FEB 28 COOKIE MONSTA W/ SUPPORT TBA 	FEB 28 GOWNS DEBUT RELEASE SHOW 	FEB 29 EKALI A WORLD AWAY TOUR 	MAR 05 LIZZY JANE W/ LOCAL SUPPORT 
MAR 06 BREATHE CAROLINA DEADTHETOUR 	MAR 06 CHARLESTHEFIRST W/ THE WIDDLER & GOOPSTEPPA 	MAR 07 BLUNTS & BLONDES W/ SUBDOCTA & BAWLDY 	MAR 12 LOST W/ LOCAL SUPPORT 
MAR 13 BOOGIE T.RIO RIDDIM & BLUES TOUR 	MAR 13 FLAW W/ GABRIEL AND THE APOCALYPSE 	MAR 14 BLACK TIGER SEX MACHINE W/ APASHE, BLANKE & VAMPA 	MAR 15 CAL SCRUBY UNSIGNED TOUR 

NEW SHOWS JUST ANNOUNCED!

SLANDER
THE EVE
EARLY SHOW ADDED
MARCH 20

ADVENTURE CLUB x CARNAGE
APRIL 3

MONXX
APRIL 18

Friendship is love, too.



COURTESY OF SISYPHUS BREWING

CONTINUED FROM SATURDAY ►

delightfully silly romp, *Twelfth Night* features an ensemble of Twin Cities acting luminaries, including Sarah Jane Agnew, Nate Cheeseman, Sun Mee Chomet, Joy Dolo, Tyson Forbes, Luverne Seifert, and Sally Wingert. This remarkable cast is sure to provide chemistry to spare for the homecoming production of Tom Quaintance, a nationally acclaimed director making his much-anticipated Guthrie debut. The show is in previews through February 13. 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays; 7 p.m. Sundays. \$25-\$79. 818 S. Second St., Minneapolis; 612-377-2224. **Through March 22 —BRAD RICHASON**

SUNDAY 2.9

BARHOPPING

OSCAR NIGHT VIEWING PARTIES

LUSH/THE SALOON

Let's be real. A lot of the Oscars is boring as hell. Like any awards show, it's best enjoyed with a few drinks and snarky friends. This Sunday, find out who wears what, who wins what, and who looks kinda drunk at one of two screening parties in town. Over at LUSH, they'll be watching the show live, filling downtime with trivia, giveaways, a photobooth, and other glam shenanigans. (Be sure to call to reserve a seat.) Meanwhile, the Saloon gets right to the point: all day two-for-ones. They'll be firing up the TV for your viewing pleasure around 7 p.m. Both parties are 18+, start at 7 p.m., and are free. LUSH: 990 Central Ave. NE, Minneapolis; 612-208-0358. The

Saloon: 830 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis; 612-332-0835. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

TUESDAY 2.11

BARHOPPING

GALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

SISYPHUS BREWING/
LAWLESS DISTILLING

Forget Festivus, May the Fourth, and International Talk Like a Pirate Day. Galentine's Day is the holiday that should have been an established thing long ago. After all, your friends see you through dark shit and push you to be a better person in ways that George Constanza, Luke Skywalker, and Captain Jack never will. So celebrate your friendships, with people of any gender, at Galentine's Day, the least stressful holiday in existence. If you're looking to make an evening of it, Sisyphus's happening will have doughnuts, a special menu of beer-based cocktails, a makers' market featuring local artists, and Blingo with drag queen extraordinaire B. Louise. Meanwhile, Lawless is hosting its own party, where folks from the nonprofit And Now She Rises will play guest bartenders. They'll also be taking new bedding and sleepwear donations at this event, which will go to survivors of domestic violence. Prizes for donations include a cocktail-making class with Bittercube. Both events run from 6 to 10 p.m., and are free. Sisyphus Brewing: 712 Ontario Ave. W., Ste. 100, Minneapolis; 612-444-8674. Lawless Distilling: 2619 28th Ave. S., Minneapolis; 612-276-1000. —JESSICA ARMBRUSTER

A large graphic with a blue background. At the top, there are white outlines of clouds and birds. In the center, the words 'FOLLOW US' are written in large, bold, black letters. Four stylized human figures are interacting with the text: one person is sitting on the 'F', another is standing next to the 'W', a third is sitting on the 'U', and a fourth is sitting on the 'S'. Each figure is holding a laptop. Below the text, there is a large white text block that reads 'Follow Us for info on hip events, giveaways + VIP offers'. At the bottom, there are two social media icons: a Twitter bird and an Instagram camera, followed by the handles '@CityPagesStreet' and '@CityPages' respectively.

acme
COMEDY CO.



Pete Lee
Wednesday-Saturday
Feb 5th-Feb 8th

WED-THU 8PM • \$15 SHOW/\$30 DINNER
FRI-SAT 8PM & 10:30PM • \$20 SHOW/\$35 DINNER
(612) 338.6393 • 708 N. 1st St., MPLS
WWW.ACMECOMEDYCOMPANY.COM

Shaw's
BAR & GRILL
TRY A SHAW BURGER
BEST IN TOWN!
DAILY LUNCH & DINNER SPECIALS
HAPPY HOUR: SUN-FRI 3-7PM
1/2 PRICE APPETIZERS "BUCK OFF" ALL DRINKS

EVERY MONDAY • 8:30PM-12:30AM

"HOTTEST THING ON MONDAY NIGHT"

SHAW'S COCKTAIL

OPEN JAM

BEST JAM AROUND

\$3.50 20 oz. Coors Light

EVERY TUESDAY • 8:30PM

NEW PRIMITIVES

50¢ Wings @ 6:30pm-10pm

\$2.50 Tallboys @ 8pm-close

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

4pm DAINA DE PREZ

8pm DEE MILLER BAND

featuring CRAIG CLARK

New! Meat Raffle 5-7:30pm
Taco Frenzy All Day & Night

EVERY THURSDAY

BLUES AND RIBS WITH

5pm PAUL METSA &

SONNY EARL

8:30pm THE BUTANES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

RAMPANT ROOTS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

CALICO TANGO'S

HOME OF THE SHAW BURGER
1528 University Ave NE • MPLS • 612-781-4405

FILM

SHORT CIRCUIT

This year's Oscar-nominated live-action short films are here

"The Neighbors' Window"



MARSHALL CURRY LLC

BY TONY LIBERA

Whether it's due to a lack of budget, production value, or star power, short films don't get nearly the same love features do. It's a shame, because while shorts may not look as polished as your average Hollywood release, the great ones supply both memorable storytelling and inspirational resourcefulness. This year's selection of Oscar-nominated live action short films is proof enough of that.

"Nefta Football Club"

France-Tunisia

The most impactful shorts generally explore the sinister side of human nature, but "Nefta Football Club" reveals plenty of substance on the lighter end of the spectrum. A whole lot of drugs drive the plot, but the subtle narrative from writer-director Yves Piat deftly mines levity from a potentially disastrous premise.

Whether we're shadowing our two young protagonists, a couple of miserable drug runners, or an Adele-loving donkey, "Nefta Football Club" offers decent laughs and a payoff that's as sweet as it is comical. Things get a lot darker from here on out.

"The Neighbors' Window"

USA

A surefire trigger for moms and dads, "The Neighbors' Window" contrasts the explo-

siveness of young love with parenthood's strain on a relationship.

When a curtain-free couple moves in across the street, Alli and her husband get front row tickets to their nonstop banging. With two kids in their apartment and a third on the way, conflicts are heightened, and they find themselves longing for the passion that once was. All that glitters is not gold, though, and Alli soon learns to be grateful for the life she has at home. This film is the weakest of the bunch, but there are kernels of truth in here that make it worth a nom.

"Brotherhood"

Canada-Tunisia-Qatar-Sweden

Perhaps the most complex film in the running, this Tunisian tale tackles a slew of Arab-world issues while maintaining a narrow family focus. Mohamed, a shepherd and father to three boys, finds himself racked with anger when his eldest, Malek, returns home out of the blue.

While Malek's mom welcomes him—and his pregnant teenage wife—with open arms, his dad can't get past either the girl's niqab or his son's actions. Dramatic irony abounds, and the film ends on a masterful sour note. Beautifully composed and increasingly tricky, "Brotherhood" aims high and executes.

"A Sister"

Belgium

My favorite of the group until I saw "Saria," "A Sister" highlights what a great film-

maker can do with the simplest of setups. There are really only two main locations in this short—a car and an office—but director Delphine Girard sources unbelievable tension from those basic settings.

This is one where you're much better off going in blind, so I'll limit my plot summary to saying that there's a phone call, and something is very, very wrong. Its concept is so modest; nevertheless, "A Sister" is a phenomenal short film.

"Saria"

USA

"Saria" is easily the most horrifying contender and, for my money, the best of the five. The true-story backdrop and compounding brutality of abuse, rape, and death make this account of two sisters in a Guatemalan orphanage a difficult watch—but it's pictures like this that highlight the power of the short film medium.

"Saria" succinctly covers real-life events, yet makes such a strong emotional appeal through its dramatization that we can't help loving its characters or losing our shit when everything unravels. "Saria" an impressive piece of filmmaking, but by shining a light on this atrocity, the short also provides an indelible public service.

Both the Best Live Action Short Program and Best Animated Short Program are running now at Landmark's Lagoon Cinema.

CONSENTING CHOREOGRAPHY

How intimacy consultants keep a safe stage



HOT ASIAN DOCTOR HUSBAND, PHOTO BY RICH RYAN

BY JAY GABLER

“If you’re hired to play Romeo, then you know that you’re going to kiss Juliet,” says Lauren Keating. “However, that doesn’t mean you’ve consented for that to happen in any way possible, and it doesn’t mean you’ve consented to any extension of that.”

Keating has served as an intimacy consultant for certain productions at the Guthrie Theater, where she is associate producer, and elsewhere. There is a movement, in theaters and film productions around the world, to more carefully plan and perform scenes of intimate contact.

“There is an artistic component to this work,” says Keating, who has consulted on productions including the Guthrie’s *Frankenstein—Playing with Fire* and Theater Mu’s *Hot Asian Doctor Husband*. “The intimacy director or consultant has the potential to really deepen the work and to achieve the director’s goal at the next level the same way that a fight director is able to.”

Even when everyone involved has the best intentions, if a kiss or a sex scene isn’t carefully choreographed, actors can be left confused, embarrassed, frustrated, or hurt. The practice of intimacy direction has been rapidly expanding in recent years,

but Keating notes that “it feels like a very long time coming. There’s been a lot of groundwork to get to this moment.”

Keating has attended training in intimacy direction and is certified in mental health first aid; she brings that knowledge to her work as director and producer as well as, in the past, intimacy consultant. Full-fledged intimacy directors, whose use Keating advocates, have professional certification requiring further training; they bring additional

knowledge and ability to productions that employ their services.

Intimacy Directors International emphasizes the “pillars of safe intimacy”: context, communication, consent, choreography, and—crucially—closure. “You check in to the work that you’re doing and you check out,” says Keating. “That helps to create an understanding: That was a performance, and it’s separate from our lives outside of that scene.”

An intimacy director works with actors and directors to devise an effective way to tell a story involving close contact, and also helps to “level the power in the room,” says Keating. “One of the things they’re doing is being a conduit for actors to be able to come to them” with concerns they might hesitate to bring to a director. “A director sits in a place of power. [An actor] wants to be seen as a team player.”

To return to the *Romeo and Juliet* example: “You know those two characters wake up in bed together. That doesn’t mean you’ve consented to nudity... to anything specifically. In the past, folks have felt that in order to fully be a team player, that’s what’s required. Actually, the work gets deeper and better when everyone feels more comfortable, when they have the option to say ‘yes’ and ‘no’ to things and to contribute in a meaningful way.”



HIBERNATION CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8th • ALL-DAY

20+
PARTICIPATING
RESTAURANTS

END HIBERNATION!
EXPLORE LYN LAKE

OPEN PATIOS

ICE
BARS

FIREPITS
OUTDOOR GAMES

ALL-DAY FOOD AND DRINK SPECIALS



LIST OF SPECIALS AT LYN-LAKE.ORG



Heard.

Twin Cities news you can tap your feet to.

CITYPAGES
CITYPAGES.COM/NEWSLETTERS



UPCOMING CONCERT

FEATURING MUSIC FROM THE CURE, THE PSYCHEDELIC FURS, RAMONES, JOAN JETT, THE CLASH, DAVID BOWIE, BLONDIE, AND MORE

FEB 14: BOONDOX BAR & GRILL - OTSEGO, MN

For concert bookings, please contact Gregg at 651.464.7757

CITYPAGES

WEEKENDS FRESH

SINCE 1979

FOLLOW US

@CITYPAGESSTREET @CITYPAGES

#CITYPAGES



MINNESOTA MUSIC CAFE

"St. Paul's TOP STOP for local R&B, Rock, Blues & Jazz bands." —Vita.mn Magazine

Receptions. Reunions. Parties. Fundraisers.
MN Music Event Center. info@minnesotamusiccafe.com

WED. **THE STARLITE BLUES BAND** 7-10PM

THU. **MARK ARNESON BAND**
WITH **MIA DORR** 7PM
FOLLOWED BY **THE DILLON O'HARA BAND** MINNESOTA BLUES SOCIETY SHOWCASE

FRI. **FLASBACK ENTERTAINMENT**

SAT. **THE ANNUAL BATTLE OF THE JUG BANDS** 12:30-7PM
THE WESTSIDE BAND 9PM

UPCOMING:
2/11 **NOVA JAZZ BIG BAND** 7PM
499 PAYNE AVE. ST. PAUL, 651-776-4699
www.minnesotamusiccafe.com

JAMES BALLENTINE

Uptown VFW

Post 246
We're not your typical VFW

Tickets on sale at www.uptownvfw.org

TRANSMISSION

EVERY WEDNESDAY 10PM
NEW WAVE • SYNTHPOP • PUNK
DANCE • INDIE • 80's • 90's

THU FEB 6 | 9PM | FREE
BACK TO THE 90s 00s

FRI FEB 7 | 9PM | FREE
BANGERS DANCE PARTY

SAT FEB 8 | 9PM | \$12
MALAMANYA

FRI FEB 14 | 8PM | \$10
HOLD YOUR LADY TIGHT

UPCOMING
2/19 THE TOASTERS
2/22 DRE DAY 2020
3/22 THE DOLLYROTS
3/31 DALE WATSON

AWARD WINNING KARAOKE
FULL MENU | LIVE MUSIC
FULL BAR, PULL TABS & BINGO
2916 Lyndale Ave S • (612) 823-6233
www.uptownvfw.org



SCHULLERS

THE LAST "REAL" ROADHOUSE
FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1988

MEAT RAFFLE
TUESDAY 5:30PM AND THURSDAY 4:30PM

Saturday, February 8



JOHNAH & THE WHALES


UPCOMING

Saturday, February 15
Johnny's Filet of Soul w/ Steve V.

Saturday, February 22
Jim Stairs & Squishy Mudd Band

7345 Country Club Drive • Golden Valley • 763-545-9972
One Block North of Highway 55 • Two Blocks East of Winnetka
www.schullerstavern.com

BEST DIVE BAR
BEST OF THE TWIN CITIES
CITY PAGES, 2017



HEXAGON BAR

LIVE MUSIC • FOOD • GAMES & SPORTS
2600 27TH AVE S, MPLS MN

BINGO EXTRAVAGANZA • WIN \$1,000!
LARGEST CASH PRIZE IN THE AREA!
MON - 6PM | WED - 6PM | SAT - 2PM

HEX HAPPY HOURS
MONDAY-THURSDAY 9AM-6PM
FRIDAY 9AM-5PM & SATURDAY 9AM-2PM

3RD SHIFT 2 FOR 1s
MONDAY-SATURDAY 8-9AM

\$1.25 HOT DOGS • \$1.75 BRATS
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY ALL DAY!

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6
All-Vinyl DJ Night: DJ Izzie P, DJ Marco Nicholas, Hadesyouthateme

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7
Angry At Numbers, RuDe GiRL, Riggs Calvero

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8
The Anchor Windlass, The Right Here, Blood, Sweat, and Beards, IVRSN

HOURS Mon-Sat 8am-2am | Sun 10am-2am
2600 27th Ave South • Minneapolis • 612-722-3454
visit us on facebook!

Ka Lia Universe



JANIA XIONG

HMONGLISH AS A FIRST LANGUAGE

Ka Lia Universe and a new vanguard of Hmong musicians look to go mainstream

BY JERARD FAGERBERG

For the first minute of “Dej Txias,” it’s nearly impossible to tell which language Ka Lia Universe is singing.

The shimmering production and the coy chorus suggest an unearthed Ariana Grande cut. But every time you think you’ve made out a snippet in English (is that “I need your touch” she’s singing on the bridge?), the lyrics slip fluidly into a Hmong phrase. If you’re used to the tonal pipes and harps of the traditional folk music you hear at Hmong events in Frogtown, the song is equally disorienting.

Universe is one of the leaders of Hmong music’s new school of crossover artists

in Minnesota. “We call it Hmonglish; it’s kind of like K-Pop or Thai music,” she says. “Hmong entertainment... it’s not that they’re behind, but Asian people, they’re very strict. They’re very traditional, and you gotta break that barrier.”

St. Paul became a haven for Hmong refugees following the Vietnam War, and the city now hosts the largest Hmong population in the United States. This is where Universe grew up, the daughter of immigrants from Laos, her identity split across cultures.

While a sophomore at Harding High School, Universe started posting ukulele covers of American pop songs like Justin Bieber’s “Love Yourself” to Facebook and

YouTube. Her friends encouraged her, and she even tried out for *The Voice* in 2006, where she got cut in the fourth round of untelevised auditions.

“For the first six years, I did strictly American music,” Universe says. “Not because I despise Hmong music or the Hmong language, I just grew up a little different. I was afraid of judgment, I was afraid people wouldn’t like me.”

An estimated 66,000 ethnic Hmong live in the Twin Cities. Though that number accounts for only a small fraction of the metro’s population, the Hmong community has made an outsized impact on local culture. July’s Hmong International Freedom Festival and November’s Hmong New Year are tentpole events for the city of St. Paul. Minnesota is the home of the first Hmong theater company in the world.

Hmong musicians still generally gain their followings by recontextualizing traditional music, and hardly any have broken into the pop mainstream in the United States. Two Wisconsin performers have made a go of it—Minnesota-born, Madison-based singer David Yang and Maa Vue of Wausau. Fresno singer Xy Lee established a huge following for his slowed-down country

Hmong music, but the 23-year-old died in a mass shooting in November. And in the Twin Cities, rapper/poet Tou Saiko Lee made headlines by performing spoken word with his grandmother. Universe’s ambition is to achieve true crossover pop success—even if that means inventing a hybrid language to do it.

“At first people were like, ‘This is weird, you should have just kept it Hmong,’” she says. “I wanted to get my confidence up, be who I am. I just decided I wanted to be out there, put myself out there. I got tired of denying that this was who I am, so I just accepted it.”

Universe is not alone in her ambition. In her quest to make Hmonglish vogue, she’s joined by locals like Kid \$wami, Supryze, and frequent collaborator (and boyfriend) Chin Chilla.

Chilla started off as a battle rapper on the St. Paul circuit, but since meeting Universe in early 2019, he’s taken on a sound that’s more akin to Travis Scott or A\$AP Rocky. “Tag Lis No,” his November single with Universe, epitomizes the spirit of Hmonglish. Chilla flips between English and Hmong punchlines, Auto-Tune making the switches indecipherable. On the choruses, Universe coos earworms just above a pulsing 808. The song was an immediate hit. “Tag Lis No” has nearly 250,000 views on YouTube and just broke into the local rotation on Go 95.3.

“I felt like there’s a time for everything, and it’s the perfect time for Hmonglish to be put into music,” Chilla says. “The type of beats that are out and trending, it’s a perfect fit.”

Chilla, who will perform with Universe on Saturday at the Hmong Nouveau Fashion Show and Party at Union Depot, first fell called to music watching MC Jin battle rappers on BET’s “Freestyle Friday.” Hearing the Cantonese-speaking rapper dismantle his competition week after week, he knew it would be possible for a Hmong rapper to do the same. A decade later, the success of Korean pop artist Psy and his ubiquitous hit “Gangnam Style” galvanized Chilla’s determination.

“That sparked a light bulb,” he says. “Dude became mainstream in his native language in the United States, and I knew it was possible for music in any language to go mainstream.”

Chilla also runs Wange Entertainment, a promotion company that books Hmong artists for clubs and events. One artist he’s consistently booked is Vayoung, a 24-year-old Forest Lake native with a punk-infused

QUEEN PEA & MISTRESS MARA PRESENT

KINKY FRIDAY

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

JAN HAPPY NEW QUEER -A/GENDER CELEBRATION
FEB FREAKY FITNESS
MAR VINTAGE EROTICA (QUEEN PEA'S BIRTHDAY)
APR ANIMAL PLANET
MAY FOOT & STOCKING FETISH
JUN BIG BUTTS & BUTCH BABES (MISTRESS MARA'S BIRTHDAY)
JULY PERVY PJ PARTY
AUG EXOTIC AQUATIC
SEPT BACK TO SCHOOL
OCT KINKY COSPLAY
NOV LEATHER & LACE (5TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY)
DEC WICKED WONDERLAND

18+ EVENT

2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 21+
LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH 18+

Xplosion Latina

DOWNSTAIRS ANNEX ROOM

MUSIC BY DJ K-YES
SPINNING 100% LATIN BEATS

408 S. Hennepin Ave. Mpls, MN 55401 | Gay90s.com | 612.333.7755

408 HENNEPIN AVENUE SOUTH • MINNEAPOLIS • 612.333.7755 • GAY90S.COM

THE CEDAR

Visit thecedar.org for more show listings

Saturday, February 8th

The Cedar Presents

SOLD OUT: THE OKEE DOKE BROTHERS' WINTER SING-ALONG!

Shows at 10:30AM and 2PM / All Ages / Seated

Friday, February 14th

The Cedar Presents

ELLIS DELANEY "ORDINARY LOVE" ALBUM RELEASE

with The OK Factor

Doors 7PM / Show 8PM / All Ages / Seated / \$20 ADV / \$25 DOS

Saturday, February 15th

The Cedar and KFAI Present

SUDAKA FEST: CHICO CHAVEZ ORCHESTRA, ALMA ANDINA, AND LOS DE ARriba

Doors 7PM / Show 8PM / Standing / \$15 General Admission

Sunday, February 16th

The Cedar and KFAI Present

SEAMUS EGAN
with Kerri Joy (of SisterTree)

Doors 7PM / Show 7:30PM / All Ages / Seated / \$20 ADV / \$22 DOS

Sunday, February 16th

The Cedar Presents

AN EVENING WITH THE HIGH KINGS

Doors 7PM / Show 7:30PM / All Ages / Seated / \$28 General Admission / \$38 Center Section

Friday, February 21st

The Cedar Presents

THE CEDAR COMMISSIONS NIGHT ONE

with Ilan Blanck, Freaque, and Anat Spiegel

Doors 7PM / Show 7:30PM / All Ages / Seated / \$10 General Admission / \$15 Two-Show Pass

416 Cedar Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55454 • 612.338.2674

the Parkway 48th & Chicago Avenue Minneapolis

Thursday, February 6 8:00 pm THE EVIL DEAD (1981 35MM)	Thursday, February 13 8:00 pm THE NOTEBOOK (2004)
Friday, February 7 8:00 pm SCREAM IT OFF SCREEN! SHORT FILM COMPETITION ANYONE CAN ENTER!	*SOLD OUT* // Friday, February 14 8:00 pm NEIL! MARTIN ZELLAR'S TRIBUTE TO NEIL DIAMOND
Late Night // Friday, February 7 11:00 pm THE BLAIR WITCH PROJECT (1999)	Saturday, February 15 1:00 pm DICK TRACY (1990)
Saturday, February 8 1:00 pm HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN (2004)	Saturday, February 15 8:00 pm A PATSY CLINE VALENTINE W. TRAILER TRASH AND JANIE MILLER
Saturday, February 8 8:00 pm SAM CASSIDY EP RELEASE W. MEG KIRSCH & GEOFFREY LAMAR WILSON	Sunday, February 16 7:30 pm AL CHURCH'S CINEMATIC ORCHESTRA PRESENTS: <i>THE PASSION OF JOAN OF ARC (1928)</i>

Find tickets & more show listings at ParkwayTheater.com

MUSIC

R&B sound. Though Vayoung performs strictly in English, he's felt the support of the Hmong community carry him through his first year as a serious musician.

"In Hmong culture, we have this thing, 'Hmoob hlub Hmoob,' or 'Hmong loves Hmong,'" Vayoung says. "People will show mad support. That won't break us through, but that will put us at a level, and then talent will push through by itself."

Vayoung's words echo a point made by both Universe and Chilla: While the support of their Hmong compatriots is a start, achieving their dream will require attention from the other 98.2 percent of their neighbors. There is a reason the mainstream route has not been trekked before: The majority of the Twin Cities only

takes an interest in Hmong-made music around the Freedom Festival or the New Year celebration.

The challenge is to make Hmonglish as everyday as Doja Cat or Drake—or at least Atmosphere or Dessa. And with the language-agnostic hypnotism of songs like "Dej Txias," this new generation of Hmong artists show signs of rising to that challenge.

"It's not even about language," Universe says. "It's more about, 'What can this song give you?'"

Ka Lia Universe, Chin Chilla, and Zong Pha Xiong are among the performers at the Hmong Nouveau Fashion Show and Party at Union Depot in St. Paul on Saturday, February 15. CP

CRITICS' PICKS

EARTHGANG

VARSITY THEATER, WEDNESDAY 2.5

Earthgang are the most dynamic of duos, eagerly colliding with zany energy as they assume funny voices, switch flows, and both mock-imitate and try to out-rhyme each other. The Atlanta rappers' recent *Mirrorland* bounces over a deep country-funk groove ("Blue Moon") and the occasional horn-speckled ballad ("Tequila"), as Olu and WowGr8 delight in friendly competition. With Mick Jenkins, Jurdan Bryant, and Wynne. 15+. 6:30 p.m. \$43. 1308 Fourth St. SE, Minneapolis; 612-604-0222. —LUCAS FAGEN

TRIPPIE REDD

MYTH LIVE, THURSDAY 2.6

Such is the streaming era that Trippie Redd put out two releases in 2019, called ! an album and *A Love Letter to You 4* a mixtape, made both available on the same platforms as well as on CD, and it was the mixtape that hit #1 on the Billboard 200. The Ohio rapper's "Topanga," gliding over sensitive piano chords and sampled chipmunk gospel, is the very model of a plaintive rap ballad. With BlocBoy JB and Kodie Shane. 7 p.m. \$39.50. 3090 Southlawn Dr., Maplewood; 651-779-6984. —LUCAS FAGEN

GRACE POTTER

PALACE THEATRE, SATURDAY 2.8

Recent seismic changes—splitting from her husband and her band (the Nocturnals), remarrying, motherhood—were the genesis of Grace Potter's current solo album, *Daylight*. Her lyrics are by far her most personal, baring her soul on confessionals whose raw emotions also elicit some of her most riveting vocals, especially on the spare, anguished gospel ballad "Release." Pop infiltrations are minimal in favor of soulful Memphis flair, a sparkling

country-politan ballad ("Repossession"), searing rockers (the Stones-like "On My Way"), and fresh passion that suggests a new dawn. Devon Gilfillian opens. 18+. \$38.50-\$63. 7 p.m. 17 W. Seventh Pl., St. Paul; 612-338-8388. —RICK MASON

EDDIE PALMIERI

DAKOTA, SUNDAY 2.9

Nuyorican pianist, Latin jazz icon, and salsa pioneer Eddie Palmieri has had a long, prolific career that's featured restless innovation. His sizzling Afro-Caribbean rhythms have fueled cutting-edge jazz influenced by masters like Monk and Tyner, the latter particularly in his percussive keyboard attack. Reprising a thrilling late-summer performance with his bristling combo, Palmieri, 83, returns to the Dakota with two new recordings under his belt: *Full Circle* and *Mi Luz Mayor* feature dynamic, fresh new arrangements of Palmieri and Latin dance classics, respectively. 6 & 8:30 p.m. \$30-\$45. 1010 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis; 612-332-1010. —RICK MASON

THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS

VARSITY THEATER, SUNDAY 2.9

The Infamous Stringdusters have the peak picking prowess to mix it up with bluegrass' finest, and often do so on the jamgrass circuit. But the quintet's string flings and classic vocal harmonies also are tied to story-telling songs leaning to straight country, pop, and rock. Their covers, in fact, can stray from Johnny Cash to the Cure and Grateful Dead. Last year's studio album *Rise Sun*, following up 2017's Grammy-winning *Laws of Gravity*, tried to put a hopeful spin on global angst with tunes like "Truth and Love." The subsequent *Live from Covington Kentucky* captures their infectious in-the-flesh exuberance. 18+. \$23.50. 8 p.m. 1308 Fourth St. SE, Minneapolis; 612-217-7701. —RICK MASON

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19): You now have the power to make connections that have not previously been possible. You can tap into an enhanced capacity to forge new alliances and strengthen your support system. I urge you to be on the lookout for a dynamic group effort you could join or a higher purpose you might align yourself with. If you're sufficiently alert, you may even find an opportunity to weave your fortunes together with a dynamic group effort that's in service to a higher purpose.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "Victory won't come to me unless I go to it," wrote the poet Marianne Moore. In other words, you must track down each victory you're interested in. You must study its unique nature. And then you must adjust yourself to its specifications. You can't remain just the way you are, but must transform yourself so as to be in alignment with the responsibilities it demands of you. Can you pass these tests, Taurus? I believe you can. It's time to prove it.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20): While at the peak of his powers as an author, Gemini-born Nobel Prize-winner Jean Paul Sartre consumed an array of mood-shifters every day. He quaffed at least a quart of alcohol, smoked two packs of cigarettes, and drank copious amounts of coffee and tea. His intake of pills included 200 milligrams of amphetamines, 15 grams of aspirin, and a handful of barbiturates. I propose that we make Sartre your anti-role model during the next four weeks, dear Gemini. According to my analysis of your astrological indicators, your ability to discover, attract, and benefit from wonders and marvels will thrive to the degree that you forswear drugs and alcohol and artificial enhancements. And I'm pleased to inform you that there could be a flood of wonders and marvels.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22): I don't think I'm boring. How could I be? I have an abundant curiosity and I love to learn new things. I've worked at many different jobs, have read widely, and enjoy interacting with a broad range of humans. Yet now and then I've had temporary relationships with people who regarded me as uninteresting. They didn't see much of value in me. I tend to believe it was mostly their fault—they couldn't see me for who I really am—but it may have also been the case that I lived down to their expectations. Their inclination to see me as unimportant influenced me to be dull. I bring this up, my fellow Cancerian, because now is an excellent time to remove yourself from situations where you have trouble being and feeling your true self.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Soprano Helen Traubel and tenor Lauritz Melchior performed together in many productions of Wagnerian operas, often at the Metropolitan in New York City. Friends and colleagues but not lovers, they had a playful relationship with each other. A favorite pastime was figuring out tricks they could try that would cause the other to break into inappropriate laughter while performing. According to my quirky reading of the astrological omens, Leo, the coming weeks will be a propitious time for you to engage in similar hijinx with your allies. You have a poetic license and a spiritual mandate to enjoy amusing collaborative experiments, playful intimate escapades, and adventures in buoyant togetherness.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Eighteenth-century author Samuel Johnson singlehandedly compiled the influential *A Dictionary of the English Language*, which remained the definitive British dictionary for 170 years. We shouldn't be surprised that it was a Virgo who accomplished such an intricate and exhaustive feat. As a high-minded Virgo, Johnson also had a talent for exposing hypocrisy. In commenting on the Americans' War of Independence against his country, he noted that some of the "loudest yelps for liberty" came from slave-owners. I propose that we make him one of your role models in 2020. May he inspire you to produce rigorous work that's useful to many. May he also empower you to be a candid purveyor of freedom.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Is there a project or situation you'd love to create but have lacked the confidence to try? Now is a time when you can finally summon the necessary courage. Is there a long-running dilemma that has always seemed too confusing and overwhelming to even understand, let alone solve? Now is a favorable time to ask your higher self for the clear vision that will instigate an unforeseen healing. Is there a labor of love that seems to have stalled or a dream that got sidetracked? Now is a time when you could revive its luminosity and get it back in a sweet groove.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Was there a more influential 20th-century artist than Scorpio-born Pablo Picasso? He was a revolutionary innovator who got rich from his creations. Once, while visiting a gallery showing of art made by children, he said, "When I was their age I could draw like Raphael [the great Renaissance artist]. But it took me a lifetime to learn to draw like they do." In accordance with your current astrological omens, Scorpio, I suggest you seek inspiration from Picasso's aspiration. Set an intention to develop expertise in seeing your world and your work through a child's eyes.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I know a Sagittarius man who has seen the film *Avengers: Endgame* 17 times. Another Sagittarian acquaintance estimates she has listened all the way through to Billie Eilish's album *When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?* 135 times. And then there's my scholarly Sagittarian friend who has read the ancient Greek epic poem the *Iliad* 37 times. I have no problem with this behavior. I admire your tribe's ability to keep finding new inspiration in sources you already know well. But in my astrological opinion, you shouldn't do much of this kind of thing in the coming weeks. It's high time for you to experiment with experiences you know little about. Be fresh, innocent, and curious.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Athens was one of the great cities of the ancient world. Its vigorous art, theater, philosophy, architecture, and experiments in democracy are today regarded as foundational to Western culture. And yet at its height, Athens' population was a mere 275,000—equal to modern Fort Wayne, Indiana or Windsor, Ontario. How could such a relatively small source breed such intensity and potency? That's a long story. In any case, I foresee you having the potential to be like Athens yourself in the coming weeks and months. Capricorn: a highly concentrated font of value. For best results, focus on doing what you do best.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): According to my analysis, the year 2020 will be a time when you can have dramatic success as you re-evaluate and re-vision and revamp your understandings of your life purpose. Why were you born? What's the nature of your unique genius? What are the best gifts you have to offer the world? Of the many wonderful facts you could accomplish, which are the most important? The next few weeks will be a potent time to get this fun and energizing investigation fully underway.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Physicist Niels Bohr won a Nobel Prize for his insights about quantum mechanics. But he was humble about the complexity of the subject. "If you think you understand it, that only shows you don't know the first thing about it," he mused. I'm tempted to make a similar statement about the mysteries and riddles that are making your life so interesting. If you think you understand those mysteries and riddles, you probably don't. But if you're willing to acknowledge how perplexing they are, and you can accept the fact that your comprehension of them is partial and fuzzy, then you might enjoy a glimmer of the truth that's worth building on.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20						21					22			
	23			24	25					26				
				27					28					
29	30	31				32	33	34				35	36	37
38						39					40	41		
42						43					44			
				45	46	47				48				
49	50						51	52	53				54	55
56							57						58	
														59
60						61					62	63		
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

PENNY EXPRESS

BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

Across

- 1 Crime lord of the “Star Wars” universe
- 6 You’re looking at one
- 10 Game using 32 cards
- 14 Hilarious
- 15 Large slab
- 16 Fibber’s creation
- 17 Argument for Buddhism?
- 19 Nabokov’s most popular crossword-adjacent book

- 20 Go that-a-way

- 21 Go bananas
- 22 Caused
- 23 Banish a commie for eternal punishment?
- 27 Band that for some reason reissued “Monster” last year even though used CD bins are clogged with copies of it
- 28 Gulf south of Yemen
- 29 Rapper who started off in Digital Underground

- 32 Caveman cousins
- 35 “You follow?”
- 38 Wussy Bohemian, formally?

- 42 Hamm with goals
- 43 Presidential candidate with a Gang
- 44 Oprah’s friend King
- 45 Edge
- 48 Speechwriter Favreau
- 49 Made an estimation how tall a skyscraper is?
- 56 Skier’s mecca
- 57 Ocho ____, Jamaica
- 58 Top number of some watches

Down

- 60 Tag player’s cry
- 61 Congressional VIPs on two-masted sailboats?
- 64 Wine valley
- 65 Tree dweller in the the “Star Wars” universe
- 66 Eagle’s grabber
- 67 Eyewear, jocularly
- 68 Sisters
- 69 Heart tube

Down

- 1 Esperanza Spalding’s genre
- 2 To the back
- 3 Watch an entire season of a show in a sitting, e.g.
- 4 Physique
- 5 Polished off
- 6 Mickey Mouse
- 7 Yoga move
- 8 Racer Al or his son
- 9 Scrape (by)
- 10 Tampa suburb
- 11 Russian abstract artist Wassily

- 12 Bush appointee to the Court
- 13 Carpenter’s joint
- 18 Gift tag word
- 22 Tupperware piece
- 24 Count who was bats, for short
- 25 Electronic gizmos, e.g.
- 26 Fun run
- 29 “31 Days of Oscar” cable channel
- 30 Spraying weapon
- 31 Truce symbol

- 32 “Why didn’t I think of that!”
- 33 Check endorser’s need
- 34 Hosp. instrument
- 36 Fish with electric organs
- 37 Chemical suffix
- 39 Pound out an e-mail, say
- 40 2020 Best Rap Album Grammy winner
- 41 Pleading words
- 46 State-levied fee
- 47 ID used on numerous govt. forms
- 48 Kid
- 49 Good news from Nasdaq
- 50 MA and PA are found here
- 51 Madison, N.J., campus
- 52 Squelch
- 53 Clock noises
- 54 One without a country
- 55 Nurse
- 59 “That ____ funny!”
- 61 “Jeopardy!” rival of Brad and James
- 62 Scale amts.
- 63 Melon topper

Last Week’s Answer

S	H	E	P		D	A	B	S		E	L	B	A	
T	O	J	O		O	I	L	U	P		X	B	O	X
A	P	E	R		P	E	T	R	I		O	O	Z	E
T	I	C	K	E	T	M	A	R	K	E	T			
	S	T	Y	L	I		E	L	I	S	H	A		
		P	I	C	K	E	T	L	O	C	K	E	T	
A	R	K	I	N		N	I	V	E	N		I	M	O
R	I	N	G		S	I	E	V	E		B	E	A	M
A	G	O		B	A	S	I	C		F	E	R	N	S
B	U	L	L	E	T	H	O	R	N	E	T			
S	P	L	A	T	S		E	L	E	C	T			
		R	O	C	K	E	T	W	A	L	L	E	T	
O	P	R	Y		O	W	L	E	T		N	O	N	O
A	E	O	N		R	A	K	E	S		U	S	D	A
T	R	E	X		E	N	O	S		T	E	S	T	

CITY PAGES

BEST *of the* TWIN CITIES

VOTE

readers' choice poll

PHASE 1

FEBRUARY 5-26

Type in your nominee for
each category

PHASE 2

MARCH 4-25

Select from the top five nominees
of each category

*Each year, our annual Best of the Twin Cities
issue celebrates all the things we love most
about our metropolis, from the finest bars
and restaurants, to the coolest people, parks,
museums, and music.*

*Be sure to help us celebrate the winners at
City Pages Best of the Twin Cities Party,
April 30, 2020 at Orchestra Hall!*

CITYPAGES.COM/VOTE

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED ON
APRIL 22, 2020**



CDL &
non-CDL

DRIVERS WANTED

Start part time delivering for
Star Tribune—Minnesota's largest media
company—with opportunities for full-time
hours available. We offer a great working
atmosphere and a potential to

earn up to \$17.00/hour.

APPLY NOW AT
StarTribuneCompany.com/work-for-us

★ **StarTribune**

Cam What May

My daughter's a cam girl and I don't like it!

I started reading your column when I was 20. Now I'm an old married lady with 20 years of married monogamy behind me. My oldest daughter, 23, just came out to me as a sex worker.

She's been making a slim living as a cam girl. She recently graduated with a marketable degree but hasn't been searching for a job in her field because, "It's hard to want to apply for a minimum wage job when I make the same working from home."

I'm finding this hard to process. It's very hard for me to see her giving up what used to be her dreams. But that's not the part I think you can help

me with. I used to be a sex worker—a dancer at Seattle's Lusty Lady. That was before the internet really existed, but I think the job is analogous to cam work: nudity and masturbation for the pleasure of others, no physical contact. I found sex work to be corrosive to my goals. As a heterosexual woman, I hoped to fall in love with a man and have a family, and the longer I did that type of work, the more impossible those goals seemed. I saw men at their worst 40 hours a week. As time went by, I felt myself withdrawing more and more from the possibility of any kind of affectionate relationship with a man. Quitting was an act of self-preservation.

I did my best to react non-judgmentally when my daughter confided in me, but I'm really unhappy about it. I worry about the effect sex work will have on her future—both her intimate relationships and her professional goals—and that stigma still exists. I worry she'll become mired in poverty, and I worry she won't be able to find loving relationships with men who value her. What do I do, Dan?

THE CAM GIRL'S MOM

Your daughter made this your business when she shared it with you, TCGM. My advice would be to lean in, love your daughter, and share your experiences. Not to get your daughter to stop doing sex work—but to keep the lines of communication open.

The kind of sex work you did was different in important ways. The women who danced at the Lusty Lady were behind Plexiglas, men pumped quarters into slots to lift partitions that allowed them to see the women, and there were private booths

for solo shows. But while you saw men "at their worst," your daughter doesn't have to look at the men she's performing for. Unlike a performer in a peep show, your daughter can block guys who give her the

creeps or who are pushy or disrespectful. But she does have to worry that someone might be recording her sessions and posting them online. And unlike the Lusty Lady (R.I.P.), the internet is forever.

But the stigma around sex work is decreasing—Elizabeth Warren recently said she's "open to decriminalizing" it—and with people of all ages furiously sexting each other, we're quickly reaching the

stage where everyone has nudes out there.

You worry that this work may make it impossible for your daughter to fall in love, create a family, pursue her goals, or even make a decent living. But you fell in love, created a family, and presumably make a good living yourself. It's possible that doing this kind of work delayed achieving those goals, but you weren't derailed or destroyed by it and your daughter doesn't have to be either. (And is less likely to be with her mom in her corner.) Not everyone wants one committed, long-term partner, not everyone wants kids. And while you're understandably distressed that she isn't doing anything with her degree, her goals may have changed since she picked a major. Working as a cam girl may give her the time she needs to figure out a new dream. There are women and men out there whose dream job is sex work.

Your daughter opened a door when she shared this, and there must be a reason. Hell, it's possible she wants to be talked out of doing it. Don't hesitate to share your experiences and perspective. It's not shaming to tell her you found it dehumanizing and corrosive. But after you share, listen to her. And as all parents of adult children know or soon learn, your kid gets to make their own choices and their own mistakes. And sometimes what looks like a mistake to a concerned parent turns out to be the right choice for the adult child.

mail@savagelove.net

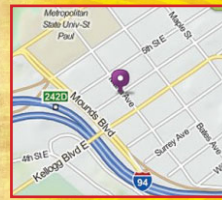
Follow Dan on Twitter: @fakedansavage
savagelovecast.com



Dan Savage

Duke's Cars & Towing

Auto Repair • Collision Repair • Paint
24 Hour Towing Available



323 Maria Avenue N
Saint Paul, MN 55103



977 Front Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55106



520 E. Lake Street
Minneapolis, MN 55408

**After God,
We Are The Only Ones There For You 24/7**

**We Pay Top Dollar for Junk Cars, Any Condition.
Best Price on used & new Tires**

Windshields | Upholstery | Make Car Keys | Auto Towing
Roadside Assistance | Auto Repair | Lockout Services | Se Habla Español

612-282-1659

WINDOW TINTING

www.dukescarsandtowingllc.com

**"This was honestly
the best medical
experience I have
ever had."**

Support Family Tree Clinic

BECOME A PATIENT!



FamilyTree
Clinic.org

CALL OR TEXT:
651-645-0478

Valentine's Day Special



**YOUR CHOICE
STARTING AT \$65**
Spoil Me (Relax)
Spa Me (Retreat)
Love Me (Romance)

Genuine Massage & Spa
3406 University Ave.
SE Minneapolis
Tel: 612-331-1174

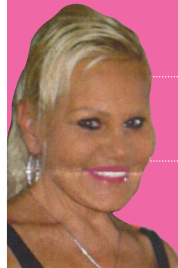
Good thru 2/29/20

Massage
LET MY HANDS
**EASE &
PLEASE**
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
***82 612-963-4089**

movie listings CITY PAGES
AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

True Relaxation Massage

**It's a Wonderful
Session!**



9am-9pm by
Appointment Only

7 Days a Week
612.275.8727

Happy Valentine's Day!

Just Walk In! 3406 University Ave SE, MPLS

**ROYAL THAI
CHINESE CUPPING
ENHANCED SWEDISH
DEEP TISSUE
BAMBOO MASSAGE
JAPANESE BACK WALKING**

612-746-0765

FREE STUFF

citypages.com/promotions

307
Rooms for Rent

Brooklyn Center \$475 763-291-2677
Male or Female roommate 35 y.o.+ Wanted, No Pets!
Quick & convenient access to highways ask for BT
AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY!

317
Apartments for Rent

MPLS/ LORING PARK 612-870-7878
Immaculate Studios starting at \$745 & 1 Bdrms
starting at \$785 w/ large walk-in closets, HW floors &
claw foot tub w/ shower. Bicycle storage, coin-op
laundry. Heat paid. Clean, quiet & affordable living!
612-870-7878 www.theparkapartments.com

Downtown Minneapolis 612-872-8758
Classic Brownstone building, security, hardwood
floors and 10' ceilings. Skyline View.

• Sleeping Room - \$400 (2 Available!)

527
Legal Notices

5512 Chevy Impala plate ICB
202 vin 2g1wt58k989274862
from Bluffs of Burnsville 1-31-
2020. Owners and lien holders
have the right to reclaim
vehicles under MN Statute
#168b.07. Available for
retrieval at Tyson's Towing
7077 Hwy 13 W, Savage MN
55378. 612-978-3705.

#30028 - Chevy Monte Carlo
VIN# 2C1WW12E549366239
from 2009 E 121st Street,
Burnsville, MN 55337 on
1.18.20. Owners & Lien
Holders have the right to
reclaim the vehicle under MN
Statute #168b.07. Avail for
retrieval at Prof. Rec. Ser.
2532 Strunks Rd. Shakopee,
MN 55378. 612-405.7400.

**Your
One Day
Ad Works
All Week!**

CITY PAGES

CLASSIFIEDS
citypages.com
612.375.1015

SPEARMINT RHINO GENTLEMEN'S CLUBS

725 HENNEPIN AVENUE MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55403 612.353.6739 21+ w/ID OPEN DAILY 6PM-3AM

UFC 247
TWO TITLE FIGHTS
JONES vs REYES
SHEVCHENKO vs CHOOKAGIAN
FEB 8 SAT
Modelo
TOYOTA
SPEARMINT RHINO MINNEAPOLIS
Presents:
ADULT FEATURE
BROOKLYN Chase
FEBRUARY 21ST & 22ND
11PM & 1AM
RESERVE YOUR TABLE TODAY
WATCH IT LIVE!

Lock & Key Party
2/14/2020
10PM-2AM
2-4-1 & \$1 DANCES
\$200 VELVE CLICQUOT ROSE & TITO'S VODKA BOTTLES
\$100 NEWTON WINE & CHARDONNAY OR CABERNET BOTTLES
WIN DANCES & MORE IN OUR LOCK & KEY GAME
SPEARMINTRHINO.COM @MINNESOTARHINO @SPEARMINTRHINOMINNEAPOLIS

Need a great massage?
Call now!

**5 BEST NEW MASSEUSES
Welcome You!**

Deep Tissue • Swedish
Thai • Sport Massage



Ban Sabai

1704 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55408
612.823.5333

Camplighter Lounge

**THURSDAY
AMATEUR NIGHT**

\$200 CASH PRIZE
BEAUTIFUL, FRIENDLY GIRLS WANTED
STARTING AT 9:30PM

2 Nude Stages/Tablesides Revue/Vip Area
2 Bars/Full Kitchen
Happy Hour Everyday 2pm-7pm
Some of the Lowest Drink Prices in the Twin Cities!

LARPENTEUR & RICE · ST. PAUL · 651-489-9200

Valentine's Spectacular

WITH THE SHOWGIRLS

FEB 10TH-14TH



GREAT DANCE SPECIALS ALL WEEK!

315 Washington Ave. N. • Minneapolis, MN
(612) 333-6333 • www.DejaVu.com

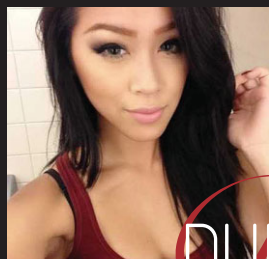


\$10 BEST INTIMATE CHAT

CHOOSE FROM:

**BUSTY BLONDES, EBONY HOTTIES,
HOT CO-EDS or OLDER LADIES!**

**866-515-FOXY (3699)
ONLY \$10 PER CALL!**

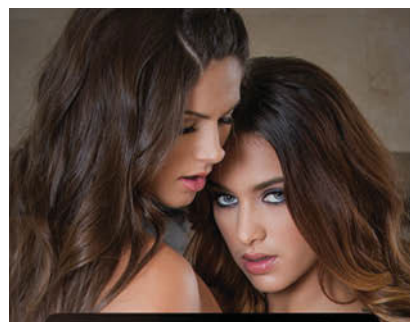


new clients \$60

**PURE
MASSAGE**

St. Louis Park

Call Now! 612-469-4389



DreamGirls

1,000'S OF BEAUTIFUL GIRLS & 3 UGLY ONES*

FREE ADMISSION

**WITH YOUR CONCERT,
EVENT, OR SPORTS
TICKET STUB
OF THE DAY!**

VALID ON DATES OF EVENT
RESTRICTIONS MAY APPLY

HOURS OF OPERATION

MON-THU 3pm-3am

FRI-SAT 3pm-4am

SUNDAYS 6pm-3am



12 North 5th St. Minneapolis, MN 55403
(612) 339-2271 • WWW.DEJAVU.COM
[Facebook.com/DreamgirlsMinneapolis](https://www.facebook.com/DreamgirlsMinneapolis)

WINNER BEST STRIP CLUB

—City Pages 2017



HOT ENTERTAINMENT HOT FUN AT THE #1 STRIP CLUB IN THE TWIN CITIES

Bring a Hot Date!

Free admission for 2
February 10-15, 2020



EXPERIENCE
DIAMOND
VIP LOUNGE

**KING OF
DIAMONDS**

GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

FULL NUDITY • FULL LIQUOR • VIP LOUNGE

6600 RIVER ROAD INVER GROVE, MN (651) 455-3886

**TWIN CITIES BEST GENTLEMEN'S CLUB IS JUST
MINUTES AWAY... WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?**

MONDAY - SATURDAY 3:30PM - 2AM FREE COVER FOR BUS & LIMO ARRIVALS

Entertainers

AUDITION TODAY AND SEE
WHY KOD IS THE PLACE TO BE!
MON-FRI 4PM-12AM

Always free cover for

SAME DAY SPORT • CONCERT
EVENT • GOLF TICKET HOLDERS
ACTIVE MILITARY AND VETS

City Pages Best of Winner
2002, 2003, and 2004!

VIDEO UNIVERSE
MAINSTREAM TO ADULT

Over 40,000 DVDs
(15,000 Adult) for Sale and Rent!

Rent 5 XXX DVDs for
a week for \$15.75!

Buy 3 Adult DVDs
Get A 4th DVD FREE!

Sale XXX DVDs
starting at \$5.75!

4114 Lakeland Ave N • Robbinsdale • 763.536.9932

www.VideoUniversemn.com

AMAZING MASSAGE
FREE TABLE SHOWER
 7035 WAYZATA BLVD #100, ST LOUIS PARK • 952-855-7971

GET CASH FOR YOUR USED VINYL! **GET 30% MORE** IF YOU CHOOSE IN-STORE CREDIT
 WE TRAVEL FOR LARGE COLLECTIONS
THE ELECTRIC fetus
 2000 4th Ave. S., Mpls • 612.870.9300 • usedbuys@electricfetus.com

800-LAWYERS
 INJURY • BANKRUPTCY
 DIVORCE • DWI

ELITE THERAPY
LOOKING TO RELAX
AND RELIEVE STRESS?
 Waxing, Skin Care, and Massage Services
 Call 612-810-8829
 Uptown Minneapolis



IT ALL STARTS WITH A SEED!
EcoGarden Supply • Blocks from I-94 & 280
 800 Transfer Rd. Suite 3, Dock 8, St. Paul
www.EcoGardenSupply.com • 651-647-1896

\$150 & UP FOR MOST JUNKERS & REPAIRABLES
FREE TOW • Same Day Service
 h: 612-781-1804 c: 763-445-0224

A-1 VACUUM
 REPAIR OR REPLACE
 LOVE YOUR VACUUM AGAIN!
 2575 FAIRVIEW AVE N
 ROSEVILLE, MN 55113
 651.222.6316
WWW.A-1VACUUM.COM
BUBBA APPROVED!



Need a great massage?
Call now!
5 Best New Masseuses Welcome You!
 Deep Tissue
 Swedish • Thai
 Sport Massage
NOW HIRING!
 612.823.5333



Ban Sabai
 1704 West Lake Street, Minneapolis, MN 55408

ALWAYS BUYING MUSIC!
 LPs & 45s • CDs • 8-TRACKS • CASSETTES • STEREO EQUIPMENT

ULTIMATE BUY-SELL-TRADE COLLECTIBLES

WANT TO EARN 10% MORE ON YOUR SALE?
 Just bring in this ad!

HOURS MON-SAT 10-6 SUN 11-5
908 MAINSTREET • HOPKINS, MN • 952-452-9933

REAL VIAGRA!
 No prescription needed
 Fast, reliable, free delivery.
ONLY \$10 EACH 100MG
mnnaturalmale@gmail.com • 612-210-8256 • Jay
www.mrenhancer.com

Need Affordable Insurance?

Need Affordable Car, Home, life, or Renters Insurance? **Call John @ 651-777-6898**

TOP CASH FOR JUNKERS
 (612) 282-1659 • Duke's Cars & Towing

Oriental Touch ♥ #1 Exotic Thai!!
 BEST IN UPTOWN!
 ♥♥♥♥♥ 612-823-5333 ♥♥♥♥♥

cheapo records

St Paul Minneapolis Blaine
71 Snelling N 2600 Nicollet 170 89th NE
651-644-8981 612-827-8238 763-574-2308

1. Cash for Your Music & Movies
2. Rock, HipHop, R&B, Jazz, C&W
3. LP, CD, DVD, Tapes & Merch

\$\$\$WANTED\$\$\$
\$\$\$DIABETIC TEST-STRIPS\$\$\$
WE PAY CASH & PICKUP • 651.246.7763

NOW HIRING: Massage Therapist
 for Uptown Spa Flexible Schedules
 Apply in person at
 1704 West Lake St. Mpls 55408

PLYMOUTH - NEW 2 BDRM APT!
 New 2BR with Scenic View! Water, Sewer and heated underground parking included.
 \$1450/mo. and 1/2 off 1st Month Rent.
 Call Diane 763.546.4949 or Gary 612.669.1800

★ PERSONAL INJURY LAW ★
 Vaping, Elder Healthcare, and Car Accidents
 Call 612-272-2171 for more info.
► FREE Consultation ◀
► NO Fee if NO Recovery ◀
 Randall Law Firm, PLLC • randallfirm.com

Rhinestone Flea Market **February 9th**
12 pm – 5 pm

Turbo Tim's Automotive
 2823 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis

HOT STONE MASSAGE



2645 Louisiana Ave S • St. Louis Park
 7 days a week • 9am to 9pm
952-999-3451
www.hotstoneslp.com

WE BUY USED CDs, DVDs & LPs!
PAY CASH, NO HASSLE!

We've been buying & selling music since 1972! We are the ORIGINAL record store! Buying used LP's & 45's. 60s, 70s & 80s a Rock N' Roll records preferred.




Golden Valley: 763-544-0033 **Down In The Valley**
 A part of your culture since 1972 downinthevalley.com

PROFILE MUSIC STUDIOS
 Premier rehearsal space in dynamic & upscale Mpls location (3 blks east of U of M). Designed for both national touring acts & local bands. Current & past clients include platinum selling & Grammy winning artists. All amenities provided incl: concert hall w/pro sound & lighting, 24 hr access, DSL, security cameras, on-site mgmt w/staff on premises 24/7, pkg, street level, skylights, top quality recording studio, guitar & equip. repair, in-house entertainment attorney.
Daily/hourly rates avail. Competitive rent from \$195/mo.
(612) 331-5000 • www.profilemusic.com
info@profilemusic.com

Seeking MARIJUANA USERS 🌿
 The University of Minnesota is seeking individuals ages 23-55 who are regular marijuana users for a research study. Participants will attend two visits and complete a series of surveys and computer tasks looking at cognition and stress response. Participants will be paid.
For more information please call the study staff at 612-624-5377

Ready to Start Earning Cash?
Audition at The Cajun Club!
 The Cajun Club is looking for the Twin Cities' most gorgeous entertainers and is currently scheduling auditions! Located just past the Twin Cities, and across from Stillwater and Hudson, the Cajun Club is a clean, safe and respectful space with one simple goal: make sure that all who step through our doors always – have a good time. All we need to make it happen is YOU! Open auditions are Tuesday and Wednesday from 5-7pm at 1400 Main Street in Houlton, Wisconsin. You may also schedule an audition online at:
www.cajun-club.com/auditions

INSURANCE SUCKS!
 DWIs 😞! High Rates 😞!
 Suspended Licenses 😞!
ONE THING THAT DOESN'T SUCK IS OUR RATES.

   **from \$38/mo.**

Call the pros at PROKOP INSURANCE
612-333-PROS (7767)